FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE

Daily Report

Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-89-157
Wednesday
16 August 1989

Daily Report
Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-89-157 CONTENTS *16 August 1989*

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

- Yefimov on Aircraft To Be Withdrawn From Air Force *[TASS]* ... 1
- Chernyshev Stresses 'Danger' of Pursuing SDI *[TASS]* ... 1
- Delegation Leader on Geneva Nuclear Test Talks *[TASS]* ... 1

WORLDWIDE ISSUES

- Reportage on Gremitskikh 15 Aug News Briefing ... 3
  - TASS Summarizes Remarks ... 3
  - Attack on UN Staff in Namibia Decried *[TASS]* ... 3
  - Afghanistan Situation Viewed *[TASS]* ... 3
  - Poland Grave Desecration Noted *[TASS]* ... 3
  - Central American Talks Viewed *[TASS]* ... 4
- UN Security Council Calls for Lebanon Cease-fire *[TASS]* ... 4
- Historian Views WWII Soviet-German Treaty *[TASS]* ... 4

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

United States & Canada

- Bush Remarks on Hostage Crisis Cited *[TASS]* ... 6
  - Bush Stance Viewed *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 13 Aug]* ... 6
- U.S. Envoy Denounces 'Terror' in Mideast *[TASS]* ... 6
- Panama Condemns 'Provocative' U.S. Actions *[TASS]* ... 7
- Further on Visits by U.S. Congressional Delegations ... 7
  - Armed Services Delegation Tours Missile Silo *[TASS]* ... 7
  - Congressman Aspin Says 'Trust' Premature *[Moscow TV]* ... 7
  - Adamishin Meets Rights Delegation *[IZVESTIYA 9 Aug]* ... 8

China

- Official on Novosibirsk-PRC Economic Cooperation *[Moscow International]* ... 8
- Anniversary of Sino-Japanese Treaty Noted *[Moscow International]* ... 9
- CPC Notes Need To Combat Corruption *[PRAVDA 12 Aug]* ... 9

Northeast Asia

- Yazov Salutes DPRK Counterpart on Liberation Day *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 15 Aug]* ... 10
  - Kim Il-song Greets Gorbachev *[PRAVDA 15 Aug]* ... 10
  - Yon Hyong-muk Greets Ryzhkov *[PRAVDA 15 Aug]* ... 11
  - Article Marks Liberation Anniversary *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 15 Aug]* ... 11
- Katushev Receives DPRK Foreign Trade Minister *[IZVESTIYA 1 Aug]* ... 12

Southeast Asia & Pacific

- Heng Samrin Discusses Political, Economic Reforms *[Moscow International]* ... 12
- Hun Sen Cited on Cambodian Settlement Issues *[PRAVDA 12 Aug]* ... 12
- Lukyanov Receives Malaysian Envoy's Credentials *[PRAVDA 8 Aug]* ... 13

Near East & South Asia

- 'Joint' Effort for Release of Hostages Urged *[Kozyakov on Moscow International]* ... 13
- Iran's Velayati, Syrians Confer on Lebanon, 'Ubayd *[TASS]* ... 14

'Senseless' Lebanon Conflict Discussed *[PRAVDA 16 Aug]* ... 14
Bessmertnykh Views 'Lebanese Tragedy' *[MOSCOW NEWS No 33]* ... 15
U.S.-Palestinian Talks in Tunis End *[TASS]* ... 16
Official Denies Advisers in Afghanistan Number 1,500 *[TASS]* ... 16
Rebels Fire Rockets at Kabul Airport 15 Aug *[TASS]* ... 16
Problems of Afghan Veterans Examined *[Leshchinskiy on Moscow TV]* ... 16
Afghanistan Viewed After Withdrawal *[IZVESTIYA 16 Aug]* ... 17
Armenia Victims Return From Treatment in Israel *[TASS]* ... 18
Israel Labor Party Peace Plan Is 'Step Forward' *[PRAVDA 12 Aug]* ... 19
Soviet-Jordanian Committee Meets 9-14 Aug *[TASS]* ... 19
  Cooperation Protocol Signed *[Amman PETRA-JNA]* ... 19
Independence Day Greetings Sent to India *[PRAVDA 15 Aug]* ... 19

Sub-Saharan Africa

Yazov Receives Somali Chief of Staff *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 16 Aug]* ... 20
Gorbachev Congratulates Congolese Leader *[PRAVDA 8 Aug]* ... 20

East Europe

Polish Democratic Party Reviews Walesa's Statement *[TASS]* ... 20
Walesa Statement on Kiszczak Cited *[TASS]* ... 20
Talks on Polish Government Coalition Continue *[TASS]* ... 21
Jaruzelski Expresses Concern on Polish Crisis *[PRAVDA 16 Aug]* ... 21
Desecration of Soviet Graves in Poland Discussed ... 21
  Sopot Graves' Desecration *[Moscow Radio]* ... 21
  Polish Spokesman Denounces Incident *[PRAVDA 16 Aug]* ... 22
  Commentary on Incident *[Lesovik on Moscow International]* ... 22
GDR Politician Lauds Cooperation With USSR *[TASS]* ... 22
GDR, FRG Clash Over Emigration Issue *[PRAVDA 12 Aug]* ... 23
Berlin Wall Has 'Saved Peace' *[PRAVDA 13 Aug]* ... 23
Romanian Delegation Arrives in Moscow *[TASS]* ... 24
Yugoslavia Unions Hit New Labor Relations Law *[TRUD 1 Aug]* ... 24
Adamishin Receives Yugoslavia's Ambassador *[IZVESTIYA 12 Aug]* ... 25
Hungarian Minister Discusses Export Cuts *[ARGUMENTY I FAKTY 5-11 Aug]* ... 25
Soviet Firm to Modernize Hungarian Nuclear Station *[TASS]* ... 27
Economic Minister Meets With Bulgarian Counterpart *[IZVESTIYA 12 Aug]* ... 27
Ambartsumov Discusses Death of Brezhnev Doctrine *[Rome LA REPUBBLICA 13-14 Aug]* ... 27
Gorbachev Anthology Published in CSSR *[PRAVDA 13 Aug]* ... 29

West Europe

Perfilyev Discusses Austrian EC Membership *[Moscow International]* ... 29
Yazov Departs for Official Visit to Finland *[TASS]* ... 30
  Arrives in Helsinki *[TASS]* ... 30
Katushev Meets Finnish Trade Minister *[IZVESTIYA 13 Aug]* ... 30
Scandanavian Ministers' Meeting Results Reported *[TASS]* ... 30
Swedish Paper Suggests Gorbachev for Nobel Prize *[TASS]* ... 30

Latin America & Caribbean

Nicaraguan Peace Prospects Viewed *[Korionov on PRAVDA 16 Aug]* ... 31
Communist Youth Congress Document Cited *[Moscow International]* ... 32
USSR-Costa Rican Announcement Published *[IZVESTIYA 13 Aug]* ... 32
USSR, Nicaraguan Aides View UNGA Agenda *[IZVESTIYA 12 Aug]* ... 34

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political & Social

Text of Draft Law on Labor Disputes Published *[IZVESTIYA 16 Aug]* ... 35

- Further Reportage on Estonian Strike Situation ... 36
  - Estonian Supreme Soviet Discusses Strikes *[TASS]* ... 36
  - 3,000 Freight Cars at Standstill *[Moscow Radio]* ... 36
  - Trade Union Appeals to Parliament *[TASS]* ... 37
  - Further on Strikes *[TASS]* ... 37
  - Report on Estonian Developments *[IZVESTIYA 16 Aug]* ... 37
  - Vyalyas Meeting With Strikers Applauded *[PRAVDA 16 Aug]* ... 39
  - Western Media Reports Cited *[Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 15 Aug]* .. 39
  - Leadership Criticized on Strikes *[SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 16 Aug]* ... 40
  - 'Reasonable Compromise' Urged *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 16 Aug]* ... 41
- Estonian Election Law Impact on Army Pondered *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 13 Aug]* ... 42
- Background of Estonian Election Law Viewed *[IZVESTIYA 26 Jul]* ... 42
- Estonian Supreme Soviet Marks SSR Anniversary *[SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA 22 Jul]* ... 43
- Earthquake Reported in Armenia; No Casualties *[TASS]* ... 43
- Attack on Rail Line in Nagorno-Karabakh Reported *[Yerevan Radio]* ... 43
- Deputy Says Situation in Baku 'Very Worrying' *[Paris AFP]* ... 43
- Situation in Azerbaijan, Abkhaziya 'Tense' *[TASS]* ... 44
- Confiscation of Weapons Continues in Abkhaziya *[Moscow Radio]* ... 44
- Abkazians View TV Roundtable, Smyslov Interview *[Moscow Radio]* ... 44
- Lukyanov Interviewed on Supreme Soviet Session ... 45
  - Part 1 *[Moscow International]* ... 45
  - Part 2 *[Moscow International]* ... 45
- Economic Autonomy of Union Republics Viewed *[TASS]* ... 46
- Interregional Group Meeting Highlighted *[MOSCOW NEWS No 32]* ... 47
- Text of 8th Komsomol Plenum Resolutions Published *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 3 Aug]* ... 48
- Latvia Issues Ration Cards for 'Goods' *[IZVESTIYA 16 Aug]* ... 53
- Latvian Declaration of Sovereignty Outlined *[SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA 29 Jul]* ... 53
- Report Given at Latvian Supreme Soviet Session *[SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA]* ... 54
- Draft of Latvian Constitution Amendment Cited *[SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA 26 Jul]* ... 55
- Lithuanians Gather To Discuss Statehood *[Stockholm Radio]* ... 55
- Article on 'Lithuanian Declaration' Criticized *[KOMJAUNIMO TIESA 22 Apr]* ... 56
- Lithuania Issues Resolution on Forests *[SOVETSKAYA LITVA 11 Jul]* ... 56
- K.I. Masik Appointed Ukrainian Deputy Premier *[PRAVDA UKRAINY 23 Jul]* ... 56
- Party Views of Ukrainian Nationalists Criticized *[PRAVDA 11 Aug]* ... 56
- Moldavian Resolution on Interethnic Tasks Noted *[SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA 16 Jul]* ... 57
- RSFSR Discusses Draft Election Laws *[TASS]* ... 60
- Siberian Ethnic Groups Form Association *[TASS]* ... 60
- Commission Discusses Findings on Tbilisi Events *[ZARYA VOSTOKA 28 Jul]* ... 61
- Azerbaijan Expanding Ties With Republics *[Baku Radio]* ... 61
- Interethnic Disputes 'Aggravated' in Uzbekistan *[Moscow Radio]* ... 61
- Uzbek Party Restriction on TV Broadcast Assailed *[PRAVDA 14 Jul]* ... 62
- Tajikistan Passes Law on Constitutional Supplement *[KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA 28 Jul]* .. 62
- Union, Autonomous Republic Leaders Hold Meeting *[PRAVDA 23 Jul]* ... 63
- Media Coverage of Ethnic Unrest Examined *[MOSCOW NEWS No 31]* ... 63
- Article Suggests Reorganization of Republics *[LITERATURNAYA GAZETA 2 Aug]* ... 64
- Prosecutor Interviewed on Crime 'Emergency' *[PRAVDA 12 Aug]* ... 69
- Justice Minister Cites Crime Statistics *[TASS]* ... 73
- Militia Reports Rise in Juvenile Crime *[TASS]* ... 73
- Crime Wave Said To Require Heavier Sentencing *[TRUD 3 Aug]* ... 74
- Party's Role in Changed Society Outlined *[PRAVDA 25 Jul]* ... 75
- Official Replaced; Lack of Glasnost Criticized *[PRAVDA 8 Aug]* ... 77
- TV Monthly Program for Afghan Veterans Planned *[Moscow TV]* ... 78
- Decree on Taxing Cooperatives Ratified *[IZVESTIYA 9 Aug]* ... 78
- Economy Termed Lawmakers' First Priority *[ARGUMENTY I FAKTY No 31]* ... 80
- Justice Minister on Decreasing Judges Corps *[Moscow Radio]* ... 81
- Commentator Urges Government Reorganization *[MOSCOW NEWS No 32]* ... 82
- Customs Department Head on New Regulations *[TASS]* ... 83
- New Customs Procedures Begin at Moscow Airport *[TASS]* ... 83
- Customs Declaration Required for Cross-Border Goods *[IZVESTIYA 23 Jul]* ... 84
- New Duty on Computer Equipment Levied Prematurely *[IZVESTIYA 21 Jul]* ... 84
- Program To Boost Fish Production Initiated *[TASS]* ... 85

Chazov Interviewed on Health Care Reform *[TASS]* ... 85
Computing Committee Chairman Interviewed *[TASS]* ... 85
Katushev on Foreign Economic Relations Ministry *[TASS]* ... 85
Silayev on Restructuring Engineering *[TASS]* ... 86
Council of Ministers Official on Living Standards *[TASS]* ... 86
Merchant Marine Minister Interviewed on Reform *[TASS]* ... 86
Zaykov Attends Meeting on Food Industry Problems *[MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA 28 Jul]* ... 86
General Staff Aide's 'Arrogant Attitude' Scored *[MOSCOW NEWS No 33]* ... 87
Census Statistics for Major Cities Published *[ARGUMENTY I FAKTY No 27]* ... 88
Machine-Builders Form New Association *[TASS]* ... 88
Oil Refineries Face Waste, Transport Problems *[Kasparov on Moscow Radio]* ... 89
Gusev Discusses 'Acute' Ecology Problem *[TASS]* ... 89
Ryzhkov Visit to National Park Reported *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 30 Jul]* ... 89
Atomic Energy Ministry To Change Focus *[TASS]* ... 90
Chernobyl-Area Families Want To Leave *[TRUD 4 Aug]* ... 90
Public Union on Nuclear Safety Issues Set Up *[MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA 27 Jul]* ... 91
Blast Stops Gas Exports to Finland *[AFP]* ... 91
Voronin Attends Construction Workers Meeting *[PRAVDA 12 Aug]* ... 91
Minister Interviewed on Baykal-Amur Rail Line *[TASS]* ... 91
Package Bomb Kills Mail Employee *[PRAVDA 22 Jul]* ... 92
Militia Enables Archbishop To Address Rally *[IZVESTIYA 8 Aug]* ... 92
Odintsovskiy Rayon Reflects Oblast Situation *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 23 Jul]* ... 92
First Republic Program Broadcast to Turkmenistan *[TURKEMSKAYA ISKRA 18 Jul]* ... 93
LENINGRAD ARTS Magazine Published *[TASS]* ... 93
New Catholic Churches Built in Ukraine *[TASS]* ... 93
Private Detective Agency Opens in Moscow *[TASS]* ... 93
Article Recognizes Legacy of Rachmaninov *[SOVETSKAYA KULTURA 15 Jul]* ... 94

Economic

Finance Minister Discusses Cash Shortage *[TRUD 8 Aug]* ... 95
Comparison of Defense Industry Conversion Plans *[TASS]* ... 99
More Efficient Use of Oil Profits Urged *[SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 10 Aug]* ... 99
Cherepovets Labor Group Withdraws From Ministry *[IZVESTIYA 8 Aug]* ... 102
7-Month Railway Ministry Statistics Outlined *[GUDOK 4 Aug]* ... 102

Scientific

'Resurs-F' Satellite Launched 15 Aug *[TASS]* ... 102
Cosmonaut Mission to 'Mir' To Begin 6 Sep *[TASS]* ... 103
Weekly Cites High Radiation Levels in Chukotka *[TASS]* ... 103

Military

Air Force Plans for Tushino Air Show Outlined ... 103
  Tu-160 Bomber To Fly at Air Show *[IZVESTIYA 8 Aug]* ... 103
  Air Force Deputy Chief Comments *[TASS]* ... 104
Navy Deputy Commander Kapitanets Interviewed *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 15 Aug]* ... 104
Thefts of Military Weapons in Dushanbe Noted *[IZVESTIYA 13 Aug]* ... 105
Troop Exercise Begins in Belorussia *[TASS]* ... 106
Yazov Order for Military Construction Worker's Day *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 13 Aug]* ... 106

Yefimov on Aircraft To Be Withdrawn From Air Force

LD1608084289 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0810 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow, 16 Aug (TASS)—"During the unilateral reduction in the Soviet Armed Forces, 800 aircraft, that is, almost eight air divisions, which is the entire air force of states like the FRG or France, will be withdrawn from the Air Force," said Air Marshal Aleksandr Yefimov, USSR deputy minister of defense. He was giving an interview to a TASS correspondent in connection with USSR Air Force Day, which is being marked on 20 August in the USSR this year.

In the air marshal's opinion, such a reduction is entirely justified under USSR's new defensive doctrine, since dealing with defense tasks requires fewer forces. "We are eliminating first and foremost those military aircraft that have been in service for many years," the air marshal said. We will use them as flying and ground targets. After dismantling, a considerable number of the aircraft will be sent for scrap. In addition to military aircraft, various special and transport motor vehicles are to be written off—they are being redeployed in the national economy."

Nevertheless, in the words of the air marshal, conversion processes will not affect the combat readiness of the air force. This year new air technology is being mastered—the MiG-29 and SU-27 fighters, the TU-160 strategic bomber and the Ruslan heavy military transport aircraft.

Yefimov went on to note the intensive work of the Air Force's military transport planes—clearing up the aftermath of natural disasters and major accidents, the emergency conveyance of subunits of internal troops to various areas where there has been an exacerbation of the situation, and a great deal of national economic transportation. "In the past month alone air transportation worth a sum in the region of R6 million has been carried out by direct contract with enterprises and organizations of various ministries and departments," Air Marshal Aleksandr Yefimov said.

Chernyshev Stresses 'Danger' of Pursuing SDI

LD1508183289 Moscow TASS in English 1815 GMT 15 Aug 89

["TASS News Analyst on Danger of Advancing SDI Program"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow August 15 TASS—By TASS military writer Vladimir Chernyshev:

During the flight of the space shuttle Columbia its crew put in orbit a secret satellite to test sensors for the "Star Wars" programme. This is one more proof of the intensive work under way in the United States to implement the "Strategic Defence Initiative."

In half a year the world public has learnt about experiments and tests, on land, in the air and in space, of the elements of the future large-scale anti-missile defence system. For instance, the chemical laser, Alpha, which is designed to be based in space, was tested at a California range on April 7, and a week later a new antimissile designed to be deployed at low-orbit platforms, passed tests at Edwards Air Force Base. The beam weapon, a 7-meter neutral particle accelerator, underwent its first test under the SDI program in July, and early in August a self-homing sensor for antimissiles, which is planned to be deployed aboard SDI system satellites, was launched into the atmosphere at Edwards Base.

The persistence with which the present U.S. Administration is pressing the Congress to appropriate funds for SDI, also makes one wary. U.S. President George Bush said at a White House meeting with senators on July 24 that SDI, in his view, was of crucial importance and he considered it important that this program be implemented.

How does all this tally with the statements by the President himself that he favours early results at the Soviet-U.S. negotiations on nuclear space arms and would wish the sides to reach an agreement halving strategic nuclear armaments? It is perfectly clear that it would be no sense for the Soviet Union to drastically reduce its strategic nuclear arsenals in conditions when the United States is preparing to renounce the ABM Treaty and deploy a large-scale anti-missile defence system.

There is close relationship between strategic offensive and defensive armaments. Effective measures to curb the ABM systems, as was confirmed both by the Soviet and American parties in the treaty on the limitation of anti-ballistic missile systems, are a significant factor in containing the race in strategic offensive armaments. They are meant to reduce the danger of the outbreak of war involving nuclear weapons. Violating and ignoring this relationship inevitably brings about opposite results. It is also important to bear in mind that this relationship is of an unpassing and universal nature, it is not diluted and does not wither away depending on the wish of those or other politicians and strategists.

Many Americans are aware of the danger of advancing the SDI program. It is not without reason that the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress has recently pronounced in favour of cutting by almost two billion dollars the appropriations for SDI in the next fiscal year, which were requested by the administration. Congressman Les Aucoin seems to have demonstrated more consistency and firmness of principle when he emphasised during the house debates on this program that if lawmakers treasure America's security, the "Star Wars" should be banned altogether.

Delegation Leader on Geneva Nuclear Test Talks

LD1508132489 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1157 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow, 15 Aug (TASS)—Although it has not been possible to reach agreement on the main issue—a mechanism for verification of the 1974 treaty—at the fourth round of the Soviet-U.S. talks on the limitation and cessation of nuclear tests, which ended on 8 August in Geneva, the delegations have done a considerable volume of useful work to agree on a large number of clauses of a future protocol, Igor Palenykh, leader of the USSR delegation at these talks, has stated.

The Soviet diplomat went on to say that when the two delegations resumed their work on 26 June, they faced the task of continuing, and finishing in a short timeframe, the negotiation of a protocol to the 1974 Treaty on the limitation of underground nuclear weapons tests. There were all the grounds for such optimistic expectations. By the beginning of the fourth round there was a clear understanding of both the differences and the coincidences in the sides' approaches to a verification mechanism for the 1974 treaty.

With the aim of ensuring a solution to the issue of a verification mechanism for the treaty, Igor Alenykh continued, the Soviet side submitted to the talks a proposal according to which each side would have the right to select and apply any of three verification methods—the seismic method, on-site inspections, and the hydrodynamic method—for any nuclear explosion above an agreed yield level.

The Soviet side thus gave its agreement to the U.S. side using the "Corrtex" hydrodynamic method which it had proposed, on condition that the U.S. side agree to the USSR using its proposed seismic method and on-site inspections.

This step taken by the Soviet side, Igor Palenykh indicated, opens up broad possibilities for the negotiation of a protocol to the 1974 treaty to be concluded in a brief period of time. The Soviet side is also prepared to examine, in the most constructive manner, other protocol issues which require a final solution. It proceeds from the view that the development of improved verification measures for the 1974 treaty could be concluded as early as this year, whith the submission for ratification of this document together with the 1976 treaty on underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes.

The Soviet side is convinced that this is a realistic task, and is prepared to do everything to implement it, and is counting on reciprocal movement on this issue by the U.S. side, Igor Palenykh stressed.

Reportage on Gremitskikh 15 Aug News Briefing

TASS Summarizes Remarks

LD1508154289 Moscow TASS in English 1514 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 15 TASS—Speaking today at a briefing, Yuriy Gremitskikh, first deputy head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, expressed "profound indignation and resentment" in connection with the desecration by a group of unidentified vandals of graves at the cemetery of Soviet soldiers in the Polish city of Sopot on the night between August 12-13. As a result of this barbaric action, 30 out of 34 monuments and tombstones were destroyed.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman noted that "the Soviet people do not put an equation mark between the Polish people who honour the memory of fallen liberator soldiers and a handful of renegades who intend to smear relations between our countries". "The criminal action in Sopot revealed not only a moral degradation of its participants but also cruel will deliberately directed by definite forces," he went on to say.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman pointed out that the USSR would, in the future too, strengthen allied relations with Poland, friendship and all-round ties with the Polish people.

Gremitskikh said further on that Minoru Endo, director of the U.N. department of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, will be in Moscow on August 20-23 to conduct political consultations on the upcoming 44th U.N. General Assembly session.

He noted that it is also planned to hold Soviet-Japanese talks at the level of deputy foreign ministers in Moscow on September 4. This meeting will be held to prepare for talks between Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, which will be held during the session of the U.N. General Assembly late in September.

The spokesman said that the USSR gave attention to the fact that the Argentine Government made moves aimed at normalising trade and economic relations with Britain. He noted that in assessing new elements in Argentine-British relations, the Soviet Union proceeds from the concept of the need to improve the international climate, wipe out hotbeds of tension, look for political approaches to the solution of international disputes and to achieve mutual understanding and peace. In the opinion of the Soviet side, steps taken in this context conform to positive trends in world politics.

Journalists were informed during the briefing of the fact that relatives of the late Swedish diplomat Raul Wallenberg will come to the Soviet Union. Gremitskikh noted that they would be given a chance, evidently, to familiarise themselves with all materials concerning his case, including the death of Wallenberg in 1947. The Soviet Union has an official record on the cause of his death, the spokesman pointed out.

The briefing was addressed by Igor Palenykh, head of the Soviet delegation at the Soviet-American talks on the limitation and termination of nuclear tests. He described the results of the fourth round of the talks, which ended in Geneva on August 8.

Attack on UN Staff in Namibia Decried

LD1508173289 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1230 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow, 15 Aug (TASS)—At a briefing here today, Yuriy Gremitskikh, first deputy chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Administration, spoke of an attack by unknown people on the regional branch and base of the United Nations Transitional Assistance Group (UNTAG), as a result of which a local UNTAG staff member died and considerable material damage was caused.

The USSR, as in any other case, resolutely condemns attacks on representatives who are serving the world community, Yuriy Gremitskikh said. These actions were aimed against UN employees who arrived in Namibia with the aim of rendering aid to the people of that country in their efforts to achieve independence. We believe, he stressed, that such actions, whoever might have undertaken them, play into the hands of those who wish to complicate the process of a Namibian settlement.

The USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman confirmed once again the position of the USSR in favor of the unhindered implementation of the UN plan for granting independence to Namibia.

Afghanistan Situation Viewed

LD1508124789 Moscow TASS in English 1237 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 15 TASS—It now becomes increasingly clear, not only in Afghanistan itself but also throughout the world, that the so-called holy war, declared by the armed opposition on the Afghan Government, has turned mainly into a war against the civilian population, Yuriy Gremitskikh, first deputy head of the Information Directorate of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, said at a briefing here today.

Within one month, they fired 299 rockets against Kabul, killing 186 people are injuring 483. All rockets without exception were targeted against civilian facilities, Gremitskikh said.

Poland Grave Desecration Noted

LD1508130689 Moscow TASS in English 1246 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 15 TASS—"Profound indignation" was expressed today by Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Yuriy Gremitskikh in connection with the desecration by vandals of Soviet graves at the cemetery in the Polish city of Sopot on the night of August 12. Thirty tomb-stones out of thirty four were broken.

Addressing a briefing today the spokesman stressed that "in any civilized society, cemeteries are inviolable places looked after with care." In this case, he stressed, "the matter is further aggravated by the fact that the desecration was of graves of people who gave their lives in the struggle against Nazi invaders for the freedom of the Polish people."

Gremitskikh pointed out that "the Soviet people draw no parallel between the Polish people who keep fresh the memory of the fallen liberators and a group of renegades who intended to worsen relations between our two nations." "The criminal action in Sopot," he said, "has laid bare not only the moral depravity and degradation of its perpetrators, but also the ill will consciously instigated by certain forces."

In conclusion, the Foreign Ministry Spokesman stressed that the Soviet Union intended to further consolidate its alliance with the Polish People's Republic and friendship and comprehensive links with the Polish people.

Central American Talks Viewed

LD1508141989 Moscow TASS in English 1356 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 15 TASS—The exchange of views between Soviet and U.S. experts on the situation in Central America, which took place in London on August 10-12, was consistent with the favourable tendencies in the development of the situation in that region, Yuriy Gremitskikh, deputy head of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, told a briefing here today.

He said that a substantive and constructive discussion of the Central American settlement took place. The Soviet side noticed changes in emphasis in the U.S. approach to a settlement in Central America, noting that the U.S. stance on this issue is of particular importance. In this regard, Gremitskikh drew attention to the statement signed by the Nicaraguan Government and all political parties, and also the vote by the U.S. representative to the United Nations in favour of the Security Council resolution on the situation in Central Ameica, of July 27.

Gremitskikh said that during the exchange of views Soviet and U.S. experts examined various possibilities of facilitating the implementation of the Guatemalan, Salvadorean, and Honduran accords. The Soviet side elaborated on the need to normalise relations between the United States and Nicaragua and said that resuming a direct dialogue between them could be the first step.

The sides reached an understanding on continuing the exchange of views on this theme of exceptional importance.

UN Security Council Calls for Lebanon Cease-fire

LD1608083289 Moscow TASS in English 0825 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] New York August 16 TASS—The United Nations Security Council's emergency meeting has called for an immediate ceasefire in Lebanon.

The Council's fifteen members were unanimous in adopting a statement read to the Security Council by its President, Ambassador Hocine Djoudi of Algeria. The statement contains an urgent appeal to all the parties to observe a total and immediate ceasefire and to the Tripartite Committee of the Tripartite Committee of the Arab heads of state to resume talks aimed at putting an end to the warfare.

Historian Views WWII Soviet-German Treaty

LD1508135789 Moscow TASS in English 1329 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 15 TASS—"I think it is important to reply to the thesis which is now being expressed by some historians that if Moscow had not concluded the Soviet-German Treaty, the second world war could have been averted," Soviet historian Valentin Berezhkov writes in the latest issue of the journal KOMMUNIST.

Berezhkov is a member of a group of historians, who, at the request of the journal's editorial board, expressed their views on events at the end of summer 1939.

Their remarks have appeared in the latest issue of the journal under the general heading "August 1939".

"Some maintain that were it not for the Soviet-German treaty, an agreement on putting a stop to Nazi aggression could have been concluded between the Soviet Union and Western democracies," Berezhkov writes.

"The following question arises, however: If Britain and France so stubbornly evaded signing such an agreement right up to August 1939, where is the evidence that they would have changed their position following a failure of Soviet-German talks?

"The international situation remained unchanged. There is every reason to believe that the line of conduct of British and French leaders would have also remained unchanged, for they agreed with the Nazi occupation of the Rhine region, with the forcible annexation of Austria, and gave Czechoslovakia to the Nazis in the belief that Hitler would fulfil his promise, destroy Bolshevism and turn the spearhead of aggression to the East.

"As for those who doubt the existence of conditions for another Munich pact spearheaded against the Soviet Union, it must be recalled that, according to some sources, a plane, which was to take Goering to London, should the Ribbentrop mission in Moscow fail, was ready in Berlin in August 1939.

"I think," Berezhkov writes, "that there was no alternative but to conclude a non-aggression pact with Germany. Its conclusion was not possibly the best solution but in August 1939 the Soviet government simply had no other choice.

"The question was whether the Soviet Union would be the first target of a Nazi attack, a strategy urged on Hitler by London and Paris, or whether Nazi Germany would first strike at the Western powers.

"It is clear that the aim of any leader, even Stalin who did not spare his own people, was to safeguard the country, if only for some time, against the horrors of war".

United States & Canada

Bush Remarks on Hostage Crisis Cited

LD1508214489 Moscow TASS in English 2131 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Washington August 16 TASS—President of the United States George Bush gave a brief press conference in the White House on Tuesday on the eve of his departure for vacationing in the Maine state. "Late August is a traditional vacation period, but we cannot forget the full agenda that faces America at this time: our hostages, the Middle East, Lebanon, drugs, the budget and so many other matters", he said.

Asked by a reporter why the administration had not retaliated at those guilty of killing U.S. hostage in Lebanon, Lieutenant Colonel Higgins, Bush said: "If I could find some action—diplomatic, military, private sector, public sector—that I thought would help get the hostages out, I would take such action." Bush admitted he could not give any promises about the release of hostages in near future.

Dwelling on relations between the United States and Iran Bush said: "We don't have to be hostile with Iran for the rest of our lives."

"We see a new leader coming in and we hear different signals coming out of Iran, some in the old make and then some that offer more hope", he went on. "And so, I will just leave it stand that a clear and good signal would be the release of American hostages", Bush said.

Bush said that his administration is formulating a comprehensive national drug strategy. He said drug addiction is a threat of national dimension and that the federal government should pitch in. He promised to present the new strategy on this matter on September 5. Bush, however, said again that he had no intention of raising taxes for financing the anti-drugs programme.

Bush Stance Viewed

PM1608081189 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 13 Aug 89 Second Edition p 5

[S. Tayar article under the general heading "Hostage Crisis": "Fighting Fire With Fire"]

[Text] The crisis caused by the kidnapping of Shaykh 'Ubayd, one of the leaders of the Hizballah Shiite group, in south Lebanon by Israeli commandos and the subsequent execution of U.S. Lieutenant Colonel William Higgins is continuing.

Expressing Washington's readiness to use all diplomatic channels to free the hostages currently held in Lebanon, President Bush, speaking at a press conference, did not, however, dismiss the possibility of using military force in the event of reprisals against the American Joseph Cicippio. In confirmation of this, ships from the U.S. 7th Fleet in the Mediterranean have been placed in a state of combat readiness. The battleship "Iowa" carried out target practice in close proximity to the Lebanese coast, reminding everyone of the events of 3 years ago, when another American ship shelled northern regions of the country with its heavy guns.

Clearly, the lessons learned by previous administrations in their war against "international terrorism" were not in vain as far as President Bush is concerned. And although the measures taken in the past few days by Washington have not led to any concrete results, the desire to resolve the complicated Lebanese problem inspires the hope that all the hostages will eventually be released.

These hopes were strengthened after the Iranian news agency IRNA circulated a report about the readiness of the country's present, apparently more pragmatic, leadership to exert influence on the position of the Shiite extremists provided that in return Iranian assets deposited with American banks by the Shah's regime are unfrozen. The Bush administration, true to the principle of no deals with terrorists, refused to link the problem of the Iranian assets with the hostage crisis but did not deny its contacts via third countries with representatives of Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

At the same time, efforts by various countries, including the Soviet Union, to promote a peaceful settlement of the crisis are continuing. Some Arab states have established contact with Lebanese Muslim groups. The United Nations has not remained on the sidelines. Deputy Secretary General M. Goulding has visited a number of countries in the area and had consultations with representatives from "Hizballah," Syria, and Algeria. In Tel Aviv he ran up against a resolute refusal to release Shaykh 'Ubayd, which nullified previous hopes of a possibility of direct talks between Israel and "Hizballah."

The events of recent days have once again confirmed: The hostage problem, the Lebanese crisis, and the Near East conflict as a whole cannot be resolved by using force. Every fresh attempt to cut the Gordian knot of political, religious, and economic contradictions of Lebanon today only gives rise to a new wave of violence. The main fault lies with the activities of Israel. Although it speaks of hostility to terrorism, Tel Aviv is actually pursuing a policy with regard to neighboring Arab states that cannot be called anything other than piracy and brigandage. Constantly violating Lebanon's sovereignty, interfering in its internal affairs, and maintaining a "security zone" in the south of the country, Israel remains the main source of the Lebanese crisis.

U.S. Envoy Denounces 'Terror' in Mideast

LD1508115989 Moscow TASS in English 1054 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo August 15 TASS—The United States of America censures Israel's methods of terror and violence on the occupied Arab lands, Thomas Pickering, U.S. ambassador at the United Nations Organisation, now in Cairo, has said.

Settlement of the Middle East crisis and the Palestinian problem is possible only through a dialogue and diplomatic efforts, he stressed. Terror can not lead to progress in the region, the American representative said.

In the course of negotiations with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Egypt 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid the two sides expressed concern over the heightened situation in Lebanon and stressed the need for an urgent termination of the bloodshed in that country. The two sides also reaffirmed the intention to work for a fair and durable peace in the Middle East.

Panama Condemns 'Provocative' U.S. Actions

LD1508113889 Moscow TASS in English 1111 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Panama August 15 TASS—The press in the United States maintains that Panama is to blame for the worsening bilateral relations and alleges that the Panamanian National Defence Forces behave provocatively to the U.S. Southern Command troops deployed in the Panama Canal zone, Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorje Eduardo Ritter told local reporters upon his return from the United Nations where he attended a Security Council meeting convened at Panama's request.

Panama gave the Security Council documentary films illustrating numerous violations by U.S. troops of provisions of the Panama Canal treaty. Many people in the United States were unaware of the fact that Panama's consent is required for holding military exercises on its national territory, they were sure it was the Pentagon's exclusive right to decide. Some of the U.N. member-states representatives thought so, too, the minister concluded.

In the meantime, trilateral negotiations were restarted involving the government, the parties in the coalition of national liberation, and the democratic opposition alliance, dealing with the settlement of the political crisis in the country. The talks are for the first time being held without the mediation of the Organization of American States (OAS).

In the course of the talks, representatives of the government and the coalition proposed adopting a resolution condemning the aggressive policy of the United States which has recently stepped up provocative actions against Panama. The resolution cites evidence suggesting that Washington intends to use extensive military activity in the Panama Canal zone to further aggravate the explosive situation in the republic and the entire region. This would seriously undermine national reconciliation, the resolution says. These actions by the White House administration reveal its disrespect for the Panamanian people, the resolution says. Besides, it is an open challenge to the constructive peaceful policy pursued by the Organization of American States.

The representatives of the democratic opposition alliance refused to sign the resolution claiming that the talks must centre exclusively on domestic problems.

Further on Visits by U.S. Congressional Delegations

Armed Services Delegation Tours Missile Silo

LD1508174489 Moscow TASS in English 1716 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Ivanovo (central Russia) August 15 TASS—The Soviet visit by a delegation of American congressmen led by Les Aspin, chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Armed Services, is drawing to an end. The delegation visited today a missile base in Ivanovo region.

Soviet military specialists described the task of the base and told congressmen about general combat characteristics of the intercontinental ballistic missile SS-11. Then the congressmen were shown a launching silo with a SS-11 missile and a launching control board as well as premises of operators on duty and personnel quarters for rest. Missile men gave detailed replies to numerous questions of the guests.

Congressman Aspin Says 'Trust' Premature

LD1508182189

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1430 GMT on 15 August in the "Vremya" newscast broadcasts a 4-minute report on a visit to the Soviet Union by a delegation of the U.S. House of Representatives at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Correspondent I. Rybin reports over video on the U.S. delegation and a group of Soviet military men walking across the tarmac followed by a group of cameramen and reporters, cutting to a close-up of the delegation talking with reporters. Rybin says that only a few years ago one could hardly have imagined Americans in military uniform at Soviet military bases. "Today, the appearance of 13 congressmen—members of the Armed Services Committee—and over 30 assistants and experts at our bases has become a reality."

The U.S. delegation visited Baykonur. The video shows them viewing the Buran-Energiya assembly area and launching site. Against background pictures of welding operations the correspondent says they then visited Sarny, where the launching devices of SS-20 missiles are being dismantled. "The 195th device is being destroyed," he reports.

An interview with Ronald Bartock, who was at Geneva and took part in working out the protocol for eliminating the missiles, follows. He says the INF Treaty process must be continued.

The video moves on to the "Slava" missile cruiser at Sevastopol, showing a close-up of the vessel's guns and open hatches on the launch shafts. The U.S. team is shown on deck listening to members of the crew explaining the various installations.

Rybin says, here is the opinion of Vladimir Lavrentyevich Lapygin, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet committee for defence and state security:

"Regarding the visit, we have had frank conversations and have answered questions frankly, and we have been asking similar questions. I would say a fine atmosphere of trust has been established between us."

The video goes on to show more pictures of the U.S. team looking around the decks of the "Slava" and talking to members of the motor rifle division of the Transcarpathian military district.

Les Aspin, the leader of the U.S. delegation, is asked "Can one trust the Soviets?"

Aspin responds in English with superimposed Russian translation: "I think it is premature to ask that question now. Our visit is just a first step, and I believe we should continue what we have started in the name of a better understanding of one another. Both you and I must be convinced that we have every opportunity for verification and monitoring. Perhaps one day we will say okay, we trust you and we know you trust us. We are on that road today, and we will be working on this."

Rybin concludes, "The visit of the U.S. congressmen continues. Today they inspected the intercontinental ballistic missile base near Suzdal."

Adamishin Meets Rights Delegation

PM1608103189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Aug 89 Moscow Evening Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 8 August USSR Deputy Foreign Minister A.L. Adamishin received Congressmen F. Wolf and C. Smith and accompanying U.S. Congress apparatus staffers dealing with humanitarian and human rights questions.

During an open and constructive conversation the U.S. representatives were briefed on the work being done in the Soviet Union to implement the Vienna accords—particularly the commitment to review within 6 months all the applications received for emigration or temporary travel abroad—and on legislative activity to safeguard people's civil rights.

China

Official on Novosibirsk-PRC Economic Cooperation

OW1608102889 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0200 GMT 12 Aug 89

[Text] [Unidentified announcer] In an interview by station reporter (Charibov), (Nimokov), section chief in charge of economic contacts with foreign nations in the Soviet Executive Committee of Novosibirsk, said: Some 82 industrial enterprises, groups, and cooperatives in Novosibirsk have the authority to carry on direct trade with foreign nations, and 70 of them have already established trade relations with their Chinese partners.

In a talk with the station reporter, he touched on some urgent problems in economic cooperation between New Siberia and China.

[(Charibov) heard briefly in Russian fading into Mandarin translation by announcer] In Novosibirsk stores, we saw China-made vacuum bottles, towels, and children's knitwear items. When will these commodities be seen in stores in other parts of our country?

[(Nimokov) heard briefly in Russian fading into Mandarin translation by announcer] Currently the volume of our direct trade with China is 12 million Swiss francs. By the end of the year, the figure will rise to 30 to 35 million Swiss francs. The rate of increase may be regarded as being very high, but this is still not enough to meet our markets' demand for Chinese commodities. To meet the demand, we have two ways which complement each other. The first is to continue to expand trade, and the second is to build joint-venture enterprises and sell their products in both our country and China or in a third country. We are now discussing with our Chinese partners building joint-venture enterprises to produce articles for everyday use, lumber, and farm products.

[(Charibov) heard briefly in Russian fading into Mandarin translation by announcer] I know that currently there is an acute labor shortage in Novosibirsk. Have you discussed with the Chinese side the importation of Chinese workers?

[(Nimokov) heard briefly in Russian fading into Mandarin translation by announcer] Novosibirsk's biggest construction company has reached an agreement with the Chinese side on jointly building a hotel in the city of Novosibirsk. The hotel will be built by Chinese construction workers. The Chinese will also provide us with special equipment. We have studied the question of hiring Chinese experts to work in Soviet enterprises in the city of Novosibirsk.

[(Charibov) heard briefly in Russian fading into Mandarin translation by announcer] As you already know, currently our press is criticizing our country for paying our foreign partners with raw materials. What is your view in this matter?

[(Nimokov) heard briefly in Russian fading into Mandarin translation by announcer] Items the Chinese comrades want from us are steel products, cement, and lumber, which are in short supply in China. However, these things are also in relatively short supply in our country. Therefore, we are working on a plan to replace raw materials with finished or semifinished products in barter trade with our foreign partners. At the same time, we are also working on expanding the variety of commodities used in barter trade. Of course, while vigorously developing cooperation with our Chinese partners, we must study the experiences accumulated by various regions, particularly the coastal regions in the Soviet Far East, because they are ahead of us in direct trade with China. I would also like to point out that in planning to hire Chinese workers, we must carefully study our own conditions to guarantee good working and living conditions for the Chinese workers. In short, we will strive to make the Chinese workers feel satisfied to prevent unpleasant things from happening between us.

Anniversary of Sino-Japanese Treaty Noted

OW1608023289 Moscow in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1200 GMT 11 Aug 89

[Text] The Sino-Japanese Treaty of Peace and Friendship was signed 11 years ago on 12 August 1978. Station reporter Ivanov writes in this connection:

Following the establishment of Sino-Japanese diplomatic relations in 1972, the 1978 treaty became an important milestone in the course of development of friendly relations between the two countries. At that time, in their speeches and articles, official representatives and press of the two countries expressed their willingness to end the long years of darkness characterizing Japan-China relations in the past and to start a new era—an era of peace and friendship. During the years following the signing of the treaty, great efforts were made to develop economic and trade relations between China and Japan, although not everything proceeded as the two sides had wished.

Major progress has been made in cultural relations. Chinese are visiting Japan more frequently, and Japanese are also visiting China more often. Over 2,000 Chinese students are studying in institutions of higher learning in Japan, and more than 1,000 Japanese are studying in colleges and universities in China. The overall, wholesome development of Sino-Japanese relations is also evident in other ways. But both sides admit that problems have created political friction between China and Japan to a certain extent. The trouble is not that the Chinese are too mindful of the need to take revenge, although they endured greater sufferings than other people under Japanese occupation during the 1930's and 1940's. The Chinese are fully justified in their demands on Japanese militarists. They have to react to the revival of Japanese militarism and anti-Chinese activities in Japan. It is regrettable that Japan, even during the days of signing and ratifying the treaty of peace and friendship with China, has not been able to forestall these activities which have been frequently conducted by national chauvinist and ultra-right organizations in the past 11 years. These organizations are constantly growing in number in Japan. For instance, in 1987, China could not but react to Japan breaking the limit on military spending, which should be less than 1 percent of the gross national product. Deng Xiaoping made a statement in this regard: I feel uneasy with the postwar trend of constant manifestation of the revival of Japanese militarism. In a rather strongly-worded statement, he said he could not understand why the Japanese Government would abandon the limit on military spending.

Can China remain unmoved by the situation in which those who butchered the Chinese people and were sentenced to death by the international court, are becoming national heroes and fallen warriors with the connivance, if not support, of the Japanese authorities? According to press reports, in Nagoya, a sister city of Nanjing, Japanese fascist youths have frequently smashed the monument and marble sculpture signifying Sino-Japanese friendship. Not far away from Nagoya a monument has been built for the so-called fallen warriors, including General Matsui, who conducted the Rape of Nanjing, during which some 300,000 innocent civilians in Nanjing were massacred. Dear listeners, you will agree that this is an insult to the Chinese people's memory, and will only remind them of the miserable days of Japanese occupation.

In spring this year, Chinese Premier Li Peng visited Japan and was received by former Japanese Emperor Hirohito. According to a report by Japan's MAINICHI SHIMBUN, during his meeting with Li Peng, the Japanese Emperor apologized for Japan's aggression against China. MAINICHI SHIMBUN also noted that, probably, the Chinese premier accepted this apology. During the period of Emperor Hirohito's serious illness and funeral, Japanese rightists observed some kind of moratorium without conducting any anti-China activities. However, shortly after the funeral was over, dark grey vehicles again surfaced in the streets of Tokyo and in front of the Chinese Embassy, blaring out militarist, anti-Chinese and anti-Soviet clamor from their high-powered loudspeakers, calling for revenge.

CPC Notes Need To Combat Corruption

PM1608075389 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Aug 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Restoring the Party's Prestige"]

[Text] Beijing, 11 Aug—The document approved by the CPC Central Committee Politburo abolishing a number of privileges for leading workers in the party and administrative apparatus has met with support from the entire party and the Chinese people, RENMIN RIBAO writes today.

An editorial in the CPC Central Committee organ reprinted by all other central newspapers points out that, despite a certain effect achieved in cleansing the ranks of the party and government apparatus, the steps previously taken in this area proved insufficiently effective; a great deal was said but little was done. As a result bribery, the use of official position for personal ends, graft, speculation, and other manifestations of corruption flourished in certain party and administrative departments and among a certain number of cadre workers. All this sharply displeased the broad people's masses, had an extremely negative effect on the prestige of the party and the government, and undermined their links with the people, shackling the people's activeness in socialist building.

As the editorial notes, the advocates of the ideological trend of bourgeois liberalization used anticorruption slogans to provoke the recent riots. This turn of events, RENMIN RIBAO writes, was a serious lesson that deserves to be profoundly assimilated. The intensification of the struggle for the purity of ranks and against demoralization phenomena, the party newspaper particularly emphasizes, is not just a matter of the makeup of the party and government taken separately, it is also a major problem on which the possibility of achieving unity between cadre workers and the masses and the prospects for carrying the struggle against bourgeois liberalization through to completion depend.

Northeast Asia

Yazov Salutes DPRK Counterpart on Liberation Day

PM1508122589 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Aug 89 First Edition p 1

[Message from USSR Defense Minister Yazov "To Comrade Vice Marshal of the Korean People's Army O Chin-u, DPRK minister of the People's Armed Forces"]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Minister!

On behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and myself I send you and all servicemen of the Korean People's Army [KPA] cordial greetings and best wishes on the 44th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

The Soviet Army's crushing defeat of the Japanese troops in August 1945 and the expulsion of the invaders from Korean territory helped the Korean people's successful struggle for their freedom and independence and the creation of a sovereign state in the north of the Korean peninsula.

The relations of friendship and mutual aid between the USSR and the DPRK based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and our strengthening cooperation accord with the fundamental interests of the Soviet and Korean peoples and serve the cause of safeguarding peace and security in the Far East and throughout the world.

I wish you, comrade minister, and the entire KPA personnel great new successes in combat and political training, in the consolidation of the DPRK's defense capability, and in the struggle for your motherland's peaceful democratic unification.

[Signed] Army General D. Yazov, USSR defense minister.

Kim Il-song Greets Gorbachev

PM1508112089 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Aug 89 Second Edition p 1

[Message from DPRK President Kim Il-song to M.S. Gorbachev on DPRK liberation day]

[Text] To Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

On behalf of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee, the DPRK Government, and the Korean people and on my own account I send to you and, through you, to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet and Government, and the Soviet people ardent fraternal greetings on this noteworthy date—the 44th anniversary of the routing of Japanese imperialism and the liberation by the Korean people, together with the Soviet Army, of their motherland.

The 15 August liberation heralded a new era in our people's history and took friendly Korean-Soviet relations to new heights.

After the liberation, our people, under their party's leadership, in the difficult conditions of the dismemberment of the country and direct confrontation with the main force of world reaction, successfully passed through all the stages of social revolution and transformed their once backward country into a flourishing sovereign socialist state, and are today waging a vigorous struggle for the total victory of socialism and the acceleration of the motherland's autonomous, peaceful unification.

In the struggle to create an autonomous new life, the Korean and Soviet peoples cooperated closely and supported one another, and relations between them developed steadily, rising to a higher level.

The Soviet people give support and show solidarity with our people's struggle to build socialism and bring about the country's autonomous, peaceful unification.

The Korean people express support for the struggle of the party, government, and people of the USSR for the deepenimg of perestroyka, the acceleration of socioeconomic development, disarmament, and the building of a world free from wars.

We are confident that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between our two parties, countries, and peoples, formed in the bloody struggle against imperialist aggressors, will continue to strengthen and develop in the course of the joint struggle for the triumph of the cause of peace, socialism, and communism.

I would like to take this opportunity wholeheartedly to wish you and the Soviet people still more successes in the work aimed at implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 19th All-Union Party Conference and defending peace and security throughout the world.

[Signed] Kim Il-song,
General secretary of the WPK Central Committee,
President of the DPRK.

Yon Hyong-muk Greets Ryzhkov

PM1508112289 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Aug 89 Second Edition p 1

[Message from DPRK Premier Yon Hyong-muk to N.I. Ryzhkov on DPRK liberation day]

[Text] To Comrade Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

On the 44th anniversary of Korea's liberation from colonial domination by Japanese imperialism, I send you most ardent comradely greetings.

The 15 August liberation was an outstanding event, when the Korean people, conquering the Japanese aggressors together with the valiant Soviet Army, put an end to 26 years of colonial domination by Japanese imperialism over our country, and when a new chapter in Korean-Soviet friendship was opened.

Today friendly Korean-Soviet relations are developing from day to day in the spirit of the accords reached at the meeting and talks between the two countries' highest leaders.

I am confident that the traditional relations of Korean-Soviet friendship and cooperation will continue to be extended and developed in the joint struggle of the two countries' peoples against imperialism and for peace throughout the world and victory for the cause of socialism and communism.

I would like to take this opportunity wholeheartedly to wish the Soviet Government and you personally still more successes in work aimed at deepening perestroyka in accordance with the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 19th All-Union Party Conference, and at successfully fulfilling the 12th 5-Year Plan.

[Signed] Yon Hyong-muk,
Premier of the DPRK Administration Council.

Article Marks Liberation Anniversary

PM1508131189 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Aug 89 First Edition p 3

[Article by V. Viktorov under the rubric "Today is Korea's Liberation Day": "Following Road of Creation"]

[Text] The date of 15 August is one of the most notable in the Korean people's history. It was 44 years ago, thanks to the Soviet Army's defeat of the Japanese troops, that long awaited freedom came to Korean land. The same freedom for which the best sons and daughters of the Korean people had struggled for long decades and given their lives. This struggle was crowned by the creation of a sovereign democratic state in the north of the Korean peninsula.

Soon, however, the DPRK people's peaceful constructive labor was interrupted by a perfidious attack from the south of the peninsula. And again our country was in the front ranks of those who rendered aid and support to the Korean people in repelling aggression.

The defeat inflicted on the interventionists enabled the DPRK people to embark again on peaceful building. The masses' labor enthusiasm and aid from the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries helped North Korea very rapidly to heal its war wounds and embark on the path of creating a powerful industrial state.

The DPRK's firm, consistent policy on international questions brought the country respect from other members of the world community. A recognition of North Korea's international prestige was its holding of the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students under the slogan "for anti-imperialist solidarity, peace, and friendship."

Throughout previous years the DPRK has made and continues to make great efforts to ease the tension and confrontation generated on the Korean peninsula by the continuing U.S. military presence in South Korea and by the reluctance of Washington and Seoul to consider recent political realities. Pyongyang has not and does not have any shortage of good will. It has repeatedly confirmed the sincerity of its intentions by practical steps in precisely this direction.

But the opposite side is so far reluctant to go halfway to meet these steps and persistently adheres to its confrontational position. And the recent annual U.S.-South Korean conference on questions of security held in Washington reaffirmed the adherence of the United States and South Korea to this vicious circle. The U.S. side stated that it does not intend to withdraw its troops from the south of the Korean peninsula in the near future while Seoul has stated that it considers military cooperation with the United States to be the cornerstone of its foreign policy.

Nonetheless we cannot fail to note that the breath of fresh winds can also be felt over South Korea. People there can no longer as they did before simply brush aside the initiatives put forward by Pyongyang or fail to consider the feelings and wishes of the entire Korean people. And as Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and president of the DPRK stated in an interview with the Yugoslav newspaper OSLOBODJENJE, "we do not think that Korea's unification is a matter for the remote future. Putting an end to the tragedy of national division imposed by external forces and uniting North and South as a single country and achieving the nation's free development and prosperity—that is our people's unshakable will. The most realistic and rational path of unification is through the formation of a democratic confederated republic of Koryo."

Soviet people actively support the Korean people's struggle for their motherland's peaceful unification and wish them success in this noble matter.

Katushev Receives DPRK Foreign Trade Minister

PM1608091189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Aug 89 Moscow Evening Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] Talks were held 31 July between K.F. Katushev, USSR minister of foreign economic relations and chairman of the foreign economic committee, and Kim Tal-hyon, DPRK minister of foreign trade.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Heng Samrin Discusses Political, Economic Reforms

BK1608043089 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1230 GMT 15 Aug 89

["Second and final part" of station correspondent's interview with Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of State—recorded, place, date not given; first part of interview appeared in 15 August Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page 14]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] Comrade General Secretary, people the world over are currently talking a lot about economic and political reforms in the State of Cambodia. What are the objectives of these reforms?

[Heng Samrin] The Second National Conference of Cadres of our Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party in April 1989 improved and added a number of policies concerning the economic, social affairs, and political sectors so that they are more appropriate to the objective situation of the country and nation and to serve the requirements of national reconciliation.

The essence is to hold aloft the banner of national independence and great unity to unify the entire nation aimed at gathering great forces of the nation's people and the masses, of every nationality, and of every strata of social classes in and outside the country to contribute to defending the Cambodian people's rebirth and aimed at pooling material, human, moral, and intellectual resources to restore the national economy.

On the political front, we have made major constitutional amendments, such as changing the country's name and the national flag, expanding basic and democratic rights of the people, and expanding the right on religious faith. These policies have already brought some results, such as the participation in our government or the participation to assist outside the government of a number of former important Cambodian personalities—a former prime minister and a minister of previous regimes, who live in France and America. These personalities are now assisting us. Our government continues to be widely open to other Cambodian nationalists who want to contribute to helping the country and nation. In pooling forces, we accept those who have left the Pol Pot ranks and opposed Pol Pot, although they do not yet share our political ideas.

On the economic front, we have amended policies in the agricultural, industrial, handicraft, and transport sectors. The important point is that we have provided more opportunities for private economy to work with the mixed state-private economy to strive toward building an economy based on goods and combining it with a planned and market economy. Another important point is that we have provided ownership rights and heritage rights to the people concerning land, fields, and houses, and the rights to own business and labor means, and to manage labor output. All this has generally provided happiness throughout the country and are creating favorable conditions for future development.

Furthermore, within the framework of permanent neutrality of our Cambodia, we are paying attention to widely expanding relations and cooperation with all countries regardless of their political and social regimes, and first of all, with neighboring countries with the goal of achieving peace and national independence and aimed at building a peaceful, independent, sovereign, democratic, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia.

[Correspondent] Comrade General Secretary, what is your view on the development of Soviet-Cambodian cooperation within the framework of new political ideas and perestroyka in the Soviet Union? What is the future of this cooperation?

[Heng Samrin] The Soviet party and state have been providing great and effective material, moral, and political assistance to the Cambodian people's revolutionary cause. This has greatly contributed to our nation's rebirth and created favorable conditions for future development. For this, the entire Cambodian party, state, and people would like to express most profound gratitude forever. Within the framework of perestroyka of the Soviet Union, we have carried out a number of reforms as mentioned above. Furthermore, it is very good that the relations between our two countries' party, state, and mass organizations are all based on clear programs. Therefore, we think that now and in the future, with or without a political solution to the Cambodian problem, this relationship will further develop and be more effective.

Hun Sen Cited on Cambodian Settlement Issues

PM1508150989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Aug 89 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Cambodia's Position"]

[Text] Phnom Penh, 11 Aug—Cambodia advocates the creation of an international control mechanism whose task will be to monitor the Vietnamese troop withdrawal, the cease-fire, and the holding of general elections in the country, Hun Sen, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Cambodian Council of Ministers, stated at a press conference held here. At the same time, is it so necessary to send UN peacekeeping forces to Cambodia if the control mechanism will itself be able to do the necessary work, the Cambodian leader noted.

He went on to stress that the United Nations will not be able to play a part in settling the Cambodian problem as long as Cambodia's place in that organization is taken by the so-called "Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea," which is a front for the "Khmer Rouge." It is necessary to leave Cambodia's seat vacant at all international organizations, including the United Nations, Hun Sen stated. He pointed out that the "Khmer Rouge" remain the main obstacle to a settlement of the Cambodian conflict.

As for the clashes on the western border, this is a normal phenomenon for a country in a state of war, and these will continue even after the Vietnamese troop withdrawal unless a political solution to the Cambodian conflict is achieved, Hun Sen stated.

Our opponents, he said, are using the presence of the Vietnamese volunteers as an excuse for subversive activity. Waiting for the final Vietnamese troop withdrawal in the very near future, they have gone so far as to claim that Vietnamese soldiers will remain on the country's territory wearing Cambodian uniforms. This, Hun Sen pointed out, is nothing but a pretext for continuing subversive activities against the Cambodian people.

Hun Sen received a group of UN experts sent here at the decision of the Paris international conference on Cambodia. On behalf of the members of the mission its leader—Lieutenant General Martin Vadset of the Norwegian Army—thanked the Cambodian Government for having created all the conditions needed for its work. The UN group of experts has carried out a large tour of the country.

Lukyanov Receives Malaysian Envoy's Credentials
PM1508122789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Aug 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Credentials Presented"]

[Text] On 7 August in the Kremlin Mohamed Harun, Malaysian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, presented his credentials to A.I. Lukyanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet and candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo.

Giving a high assessment of the USSR's foreign policy course, M. Harun stressed that historic events are taking place in the Soviet Union which will have a far-reaching effect on the fortunes of the modern world. Glasnost, political and economic democratization, and the USSR's new foreign policy, the ambassador said, are signs of the changes which are clearly perceived by an enthusiastic and hopeful world. He noted that the new dynamics in international affairs enables states to create a basis for lasting peace and prosperity throughout the world, including the Asian-Pacific region.

Receiving the credentials on behalf of the Presidium and the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, A.I. Lukyanov stressed the indissoluble link between Soviet perestroyka and the task of ensuring a more secure and prosperous future for our country and all mankind. As for the positive trends in the development of the situation in the Asian-Pacific region, he confirmed the Soviet Union's adherence to the Vladivostok and Krasnoyarsk course of strengthening peace and security in the Asian-Pacific region, organizing mutually advantageous equal cooperation, and holding broad dialogue on these questions with all interested states, including, of course, the ASEAN countries.

The USSR's willingness to further develop friendly ties with Malaysia, which plays a constructive role in regional and world affairs, was confirmed. The proximity of our two countries' approaches on the most important problems of modern times, and the accumulated experience of political dialogue make a good basis for deepening Soviet-Malaysian relations on the basis of the principles of equality and mutual advantage.

After the presentation of credentials and the exchange of speeches there was a friendly conversation between A.I. Lukyanov and M. Harun.

Near East & South Asia

'Joint' Effort for Release of Hostages Urged
LD1508131489 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 14 Aug 89

[Text] Officials in Washington have noted Soviet-American cooperation in trying to obtain the release of hostages in Lebanon. Vladislav Kozyakov has compiled this commentary:

Just as in America, people in the Soviet Union are outraged by the execution of the U.S. Colonel Higgins and the keeping of many hostages in Lebanon. Soviet observers believe that the crisis escalated after Israeli commandos abducted Shaykh 'Ubayd. One terrorist act led to another and we may be in for more tragedies. The tensions could hardly be reduced by mutual threats or by American warships massing in the east Mediterranean. The situation is calling for diplomacy.

When the United Nations undersecretary Goulding returned from his mission to Beirut he said it would take a long, calm, and meticulous diplomatic effort to settle the crisis. It is such an effort that the Soviet Union has launched. Moscow revealed understanding of the calls from the U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and other

American diplomats for assistance in the international effort to free the hostages. Soviet foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze put the issue to the Iranian leader during his recent visit to Tehran. The Soviet Union also urged Syria and a number of Palestinian organizations to do their utmost for the release of the hostages.

A Bush administration official said on Friday that the Soviet response had been constructive, helpful, and forthcoming. On the Soviet Union's motives he added that the Soviets had a lot of equities that could be damaged if the hostage situation took a turn to the worse. But, in fact, a worsening situation could damage one and all. The only way out of the hostage crisis seems to lie in a joint diplomatic effort by the United States, the Soviet Union, and other nations as well.

Iran's Velayati, Syrians Confer on Lebanon, 'Ubayd

LD1608103589 Moscow TASS in English 0945 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Damascus August 16 TASS—The Lebanese situation and other international problems have been discussed during negotiations here between 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the foreign minister of Iran, and leaders of the Syrian Arab Republic.

The Iranian minister was received by the Syrian president Hafiz al-Asad, to whom he transmitted a personal message from 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the newly elected president of Iran. He also had a meeting with the foreign minister of Syria Faruq al-Shar'. Apart from regional problems, the sides also discussed ways to further promote relations between the two countries.

A meeting with leaders of several Lebanese and Palestinian organisations was held within the frameworks of Velayati's visit. The communique on the meeting, attended also by the Syrian foreign minister, says that any solution of the Lebanese crisis should envisage, first and foremost, discontinuation of Israel's occupation of the south Lebanese lands, abolition of the confessional system in the Lebanon. The meeting participants demanded the immediate release of Shi'ite Shaykh 'Abd al-Karim 'Ubayd, captured by Israel. They called on all international organisations to condemn strongly Tel Aviv's terrorist actions, to press for the liberation of all the captives languishing in Israeli jails.

'Senseless' Lebanon Conflict Discussed

PM1608095889 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Aug 89 Second Edition p 4

[Own correspondent A. Stepanov report: "Lebanese Tragedy, Year 15"]

[Excerpts] Beirut, August—[passage omitted] Last September, Lebanese President A. al-Jumayyil resigned after the expiration of his term in office. Since the members of parliament were unable to reach an agreement on the choice of his successor (and under the 1943 Constitution it is parliament that elects the president), A. al-Jumayyil appointed the Maronite Christian General M. 'Awn head of a transitional military government. This caused a storm of indignation in the Western zone. There, they decided to acknowledge the legitimacy of the civilian government of the Sunni Muslim S. al-Huss.

A compromise could not be reached. A fierce confrontation began involving the Syrian troops in Lebanon, and this has now reached its apogee. The result of more than 5 months of artillery duels is some 700 dead and more than 3,000 wounded—mainly civilians.

In the course of the confrontation 'Awn has managed to consolidate control of the Eastern zone, securing the subordination of the "Lebanese forces"—the united Christian militias. On the question of national reconciliation and political reform, he puts forward as a preliminary condition the demand for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon—both Israeli and Syrian. That is one of the warring parties.

The other party is a rather diverse bloc of national patriotic forces, acting in alliance with Syria. Recent clashes between the "Amal" movement and the "Hizballah" grouping are one example of the disagreements that constantly paralyze the Western zone and the activity of the Al-Huss government. Here, terrorist groups are active. Attempts to overcome the friction and achieve unity and stability have yet to succeed. True, a decision to form a patriotic front was again reached recently.

In connection with the exacerbation of the Lebanese conflict, the Arab League is engaged in peacemaking efforts. First the commission of six was formed, and then, at the Arab summit conference in Casablanca, the Committee of Three, consisting of Algeria, Morocco, and Saudi Arabia. However, no pan-Arab decision has yet been implemented, and the commission's work has reached an impasse, torpedoed by military operations.

The war and blockade have reached an exceptionally dangerous scale. Urgent cease-fire measures are needed. Nothing can justify the continuing bloodshed, of which the civilian population are the main victims.

The situation is also whipped up by provocative raids by Israeli aircraft on Palestinian resistance positions both in the south of the country and in the suburbs of Beirut itself, and also by terrorist acts like the kidnapping of Shaykh 'Ubayd and the retaliatory killing of the American Lieutenant Colonel Higgins. [passage omitted]

The senseless military conflict demonstrates graphically that the Lebanon problem cannot be resolved by force. The only way to a settlement lies through the abandonment of extremism, through poltical dialogue and the joint formulation of urgent political reforms. The long months of mutual blockade have shown that the two zones cannot live without each other economically, and that damage to one of them has an adverse effect on the situation in the other. Bitter experience suggests to the Lebanese, regardless of their political or communal affiliation, the need for national reconciliation and the defense of the country's unity and sovereignty.

Bessmertnykh Views 'Lebanese Tragedy'

PM1508153889 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 33, 13 Aug 89 p 3

[First Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Bessmertnykh article: "The Lebanese Tragedy"]

[Text] A few days ago I was having urgent talks with Presidents Saddam Husayn and Hafiz al-Asad of Iraq and Syria. In Damascus our Ambassador Aleksandr Zotov and I ascended Mount Qasyun to watch the amazing colours of the world's oldest capital (5,000 years) change before sunset. Pointing to the hills not far away, the ambassador told me: "Beyond them is the valley where Cain killed Abel. Lebanon lies over there...."

The eternal Biblical hills have not saved Lebanon from the tragedy which, with each passing year, has been making the life of this recently flourishing country increasingly unbearable. Almost every day people lose their lives, there are acts of terrorism and hostages are captured. The situation has been further aggravated by the Israeli commandos' effective but thoughtless operation to kidnap Shaykh 'Abd al-Karim 'Ubayd, a prominent leader of Lebanese Shi'ites, which was followed by the execution by extremists of U.S. Lieutenant-Colonel William Higgins, who was taken hostage in February 1988 in Lebanon, where he had been with a group of UN military observers.

Once a tourist paradise and international financial centre, Lebanon has now become the Middle East's exposed nerve. Its soil has known no peace for nearly 15 years now. The civil war has taken thousands of human lives. Practically all the state structures have disintegrated. The threat of the country disappearing as a single state looms ahead.

The origin of the Lebanese crisis lies in the intricate tangle of political, religious and economic passions which are rending Lebanon apart. This small country is unique for the diverse religious groups within it. There are about two dozen Lebanese ethnic-religious communities, the main ones being the Christian communities of Maronites, Orthodox and Greek Catholics, and the Moslem communities of Sunnites, Shi'ites and Druzes.

There are many countries with a diverse religious composition, but nowhere more than in Lebanon has the latter been so much the bedrock of the state set-up. In 1943, each of the communities was given a permanent place in the system of power on the basis of the community's numerical strength at the time (with a ratio of 6:5 in favour of Christians). However, major changes have taken place in the country since then. Moslem communities have gained in strength economically and outnumbered the Christians. Today they are pressing for a repeat of the system which gives privileges to the Christian minority. In short, the issue is power.

Another aspect of the crisis is regional. Lebanon has become the scene of Syrian-Israeli and Palestinian-Israeli confrontation. Here, there is a direct link with the Arab-Israeli conflict. Each eruption of tension in and around Lebanon destabilizes the overall regional situation and threatens any prospect of peace now in the offing for the Middle East. And here, evidently, Israel is mainly to blame for trampling Lebanon's sovereignty and setting up and controlling a "security zone" on its territory.

The Lebanese knot is further tangled by inter-Arab conflicts, often transferred to its territory.

How can the problem be taken out of this impasse? Fourteen years of civil war have shown that there is no military solution to the Lebanese crisis. There is a need for dialogue, for finding a balance of interests on which an agreement can be based. But, to start this dialogue, a favourable atmosphere is needed, and this means an immediate ceasefire.

Needless to say, the external causes of the crisis must be ended, too, the Israeli occupation first and foremost.

International assistance in finding a settlement, the main search for which has now been undertaken by the Arab countries, is very important. The Committees of Three, set up at the pan-Arab Casablanca Summit, has made many contacts aimed at achieving a ceasefire and starting an all-Lebanese dialogue. Regrettably, its efforts have so far encountered serious difficulties.

There is a need to invigorate support for the Arabs' peace-making mission. The Soviet Union maintains contacts with different sides - Lebanese and non-Lebanese alike. Mikhail Gorbachev recently had talks on this question with the leaders of France and with Morocco's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali, a spokesman for the Committee of Three. Eduard Shevardnadze invariably poses this theme during talks with his partners in the USA, France, Iran, Arab and other countries. We are also conducting discussions with the leaders of governments which have been formed in the Christian and Moslem zones, with General Michel 'Awn and Salim al-Huss respectively. The principal objective of the discussion is to help the Lebanese re-establish peace and unity. These contacts clearly do not mean we recognize Lebanon's split. We are against this.

Our recent meetings in Baghdad and Damascus with the leaders of Iraq and Syria, who support Lebanese forces standing on different sides of the barricade, were mainly devoted to the same task.

Our countries have long-standing friendly ties dating back to the 18th century. We believe that they have a good future, because keeping Lebanon as a single, sovereign and territorially integral state is a feasible objective.

U.S.-Palestinian Talks in Tunis End

LD1508124189 Moscow TASS in English 1225 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Tunis August 15 TASS—The fourth round of the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue, held at the request of the American side, ended in the suburbs of the Tunisian capital on Monday. Taking part in the talks were Robert Pelletreau, U.S. ambassador to Tunisia, and Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, member of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

According to the Palestinian representative, the meeting was devoted to an exchange of opinions on a Middle East settlement. 'Abd Rabbuh stressed the importance of the convocation of an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Speaking about the peace plan put forward by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, the PLO representative said that the plan could not lead to a political settlement based on international law, envisaging above all the termination of the Israeli occupation of Arab lands and the granting to the Palestinian people of the right to self-determination.

It would be very important, Rabbuh pointed out, for the U.S. to take an "effective position" to put an end to the policy of terror and repression pursued by Israel on the occupied Arab territories.

The U.S. ambassador declared that the United States was seeking to promote the peace process in the Middle East. The United States, Pelletreau said, wants to resolve the problem on the basis of resolutions 242 and 338 of the U.N. Security Council. He again voiced support for the Shamir plan of holding elections on the occupied territories.

Pelletreau described the dialogue with the Palestinian representative as "deep and serious".

Official Denies Advisers in Afghanistan Number 1,500

LD1608095389 Moscow TASS in English 0946 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 16 TASS—Soviet land forces commander-in-chief General Valentin Varennikov has categorically rejected allegations by some news agencies, citing Afghan military opposition sources, that there are 1,500 Soviet military advisers in Afghanistan.

"This is a big lie," the general stated in an interview with the MOSCOW NEWS weekly. "And this lie is intentional. On the one hand, the opposition seeks to encourage their commanders by alleging they are fighting Russians and letting blood flow in the name of Islam, on the other, they are seeking to tell the world the Soviet Union is violating its obligations".

There is a group of Soviet military specialists in Afghanistan now, the general said, numbering around thirty. Their precise number depends on the type of armaments and equipment supplied to the Afghan Army, the general revealed.

Rebels Fire Rockets at Kabul Airport 15 Aug

LD1508203289 Moscow TASS in English 1911 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Kabul August 15 TASS—Rebels today fired nine rockets at Kabul International Airport at the time when an aircraft of the Afghan Ariana airlines was landing. It is only by luck that none of the people suffered. The bombardment caused minor damage to the airport building.

Muhammad Nabi Amani, an Afghan Foreign Ministry Spokesman, told foreign newsmen that extremists rained nearly 300 ground-to-ground rockets on Kabul in the last four weeks, killing 188 and injuring 483 people. All of those who suffered are civilians.

Groups of extremists intensified acts of sabotage at the Kabul- Jalalabad highway, reports monitored here say. They try to block the passage of convoys with weapons, ammunition and food for the defenders of the administrative centre of Nangarhar Province.

General Gholrang [name as received], commander of the task force of the Afghan Army in the area of Saroubi, Nangarhar, said in an interview with the PAYAM newspaper that columns of trucks continue to arrive in Jalalabad. According to the general, this 115-kilometer-long strategic road is guarded by three army regiments. Thanks to their successful operations, which were conducted in close interaction with other units, the rebels failed to establish a control over the road although they managed several times to block its separate sections. More than 200 extremists were killed in the area of the highway in the last two months, Gholrang said.

Problems of Afghan Veterans Examined

LD1508193289 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 15 Aug 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast; political observer Mikhail Leshchinskiy reports]

[Text] Good evening comrades. Half a year has already passed since that February day when the last Soviet soldier crossed the state border in the area of Termez. On that morning of 15 February we all thought that that war had ended for us, but the more time passes the better I understand that that is not so. First, in the direct sense, that war has not ended. Blood is still being spilled in Afghanistan. Our Soviet people are working there in conditions of mortal danger. Our pilots deliver freignt to Kabul of prime necessity. The selfless assistance of our country to Afghanistan continues and naturally we are continuing to carry an economic loss. How can that war end while young boys have nightmares at night? When wounds have not yet healed and when the tears of mothers and widows have not yet dried?

In the moral sense the Afghan problem is only now, in all its acuteness, unfurling before our society, and that is how it will be until a clear and unambiguous answer is given to the question in the name of what did our sons die and become cripples on Afghan soil? That is how it will be as long as the shameful phrase I did not send you to Afghanistan is heard.

Unjust wars take place, but unjust self-sacrifice in the name of saving the life of a comrade does not—unjust heroism does not take place. It is another matter that this heroism is sometimes born of criminal thoughtlessness or inability to think by others; and in this lies a great debt to all Afghans on the part of all of our society which kept obedient silence for too long.

Incidentally, it has to be said that many people would like this silence to continue and many even now try to talk about all of the people who went through Afghanistan only in negative tones. They are stubbornly trying to create some kind of disagreeable, to put it bluntly, image of our soldier. These tendencies appeared especially in certain aspects during the election campaign for the Congress of People's Deputies and the sessions of the Supreme Soviet. Incidentally, during that period the so-called "Afghans did not know how to speak as a united public organization, having at least put forward their own deputies, but time (?has passed) and the main thing is that there are people who are striving to revive the unity born there amid the Afghan mountains and deserts.

I want to report to you that the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting has adopted a decision to create a permanent program which could gather within itself all of the diversity of the external and internal problematics of issues concerning ex-servicemen and their many problems, but first and foremost we think that this program should become a rostrum for all Afghan veterans. So, make suggestions, express your views and request to speak on our television rostrum. The contact is through me. The address is 12730, Moscow, Ulitsa Koroleva 12, Central Television. All the Best.

Afghanistan Viewed After Withdrawal

PM1608104589 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Aug 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Dispatch by special correspondent M. Yusin under the rubric "Panorama of International Events": "Afghanistan: 6 Months On"]

[Text] Kabul—It was 6 months ago, 15 February 1989, that the last Soviet soldier left Afghan soil.

Some 6 months have elapsed. Peace has still not come to Afghanistan's long-suffering land. Yes, to be frank, few people believed it would come soon. In the first days after the Soviet troops' withdrawal Western observers unanimously predicted the rapid collapse of Najibullah's government. They merely disagreed as to when. The most impatient predicted the regime would fall within weeks. The more cautious allowed that the mujahidin would need several months to achieve complete victory and seize the capital.

Indeed even in our country far from everyone took an optimistic view of the friendly regime's prospects. I venture to assert that few of the diplomats and military experts working in Kabul believed that matters would take a turn so favorable to the Afghan government.

Of course, it is early to predict the outcome of the 1989 military campaign: There are still several months of fierce fighting, shooting, stormings, acts of subversion, and hundreds of casualties ahead. But the main result is obvious even now—the government has held out.

The regime's opponents, despite their desperate attempts, cannot boast of a single major military success. The opposition's plans to seize any of the country's most important cities and transfer their "transitional government" there were buried under the walls of Jalalabad, Khowst, Qandahar, Gardeyz, and Herat. The rebels' government is still based on Pakistani territory—in Peshawar—and everything indicates that it will remain an emigre government for a long time yet.

What are the reasons for the Kabul government's success and the opposition's failure?

First of all, probably, we should mention military factors. The combat capability of the Afghan Army which for many years was in the shadow of the limited contingent of Soviet troops was difficult to judge before February 1989.

Many experts gave it a low assessment, predicting a wave of desertion immediately after the withdrawal of the limited contingent of Soviet troops. In fact the opposite happened. The combat morale of the government army soldiers faced with the choice between "victory or death" proved surprisingly high. Particularly after the first successes which gave the regime's supporters confidence in their strength and convinced them that the enemy was by no means as formidable as had seemed.

Another important reason for the Afghan Army's victory was the powerful combat equipment in the possession of the government troops. Full rule in the air considerably facilitated the tasks of the city's defenders—the Afghan Air Force aircraft delivered crushing blows against the enemy detachments preparing to storm the city.

As for the combat capability of the opposition formations, it was considerably lower than either the East or the West believed. As soon as major forces had to be concentrated around cities or an offensive had to be organized against the opponent's defense lines, the shortcomings inherent in any partisan army when it transfers to regular position warfare were immediately apparent—

poor discipline, the lack of overall command, and the rapid decline in morale after the first serious losses.

An important reason for the rebels' military setbacks was the population's attitude toward them. The majority of tribes living in the environs of Jalalabad, Herat, and Qandahar treated the opposition detachments with hostility or indifference. Many of those with whom I talked in Afghanistan explain this low level of popularity for the intransigent opposition by the fact that many foreigners—primarily Pakistanis and Arabs—are fighting in mujahidin detachments.

Government propaganda is making skillful use of this fact, appealing to the people's patriotic feelings. Oil was poured on the fire by the foreigners themselves or to be specific the Saudi Wahhabites. They displayed brutal cruelty against prisoners of war, civilian inhabitants, and members of other antigovernment groupings. These facts received wide publicity, aggravating ordinary Afghans' hatred of the foreign cutthroats and their rejection of those who recruit them to their detachments.

Some people in the West expected the painful blows which the Afghan Army struck against the regime's opponents to force them to rally, to temporarily forget their internal contradictions and conflicts. But the opposite happened. Internecine clashes in the opposition camp reached an unprecedented acuteness.

The climax was the massacre which members of G. Hikmatyar's "Islamic Party of Afghanistan" perpetrated in the northern province of Takhar. Some 30 men belonging to another very large grouping, the "Islamic Society of Afghanistan," including several well known commanders, were killed there.

The events in Takhar rocked the entire opposition—in many provinces members of antagonistic groups turned their weapons against each other. And often these battles are more fierce than the ones the mujahidin wage against the government troops.

Ordinary Afghans following the reprisals in the opposition camp are thinking: What will happen to the country if the "fighters for the faith" seize power? Afghanistan will be plunged into a state of endless civil war, destruction, and chaos.

The Afghan leaders have repeatedly stressed that they are not seeking a monopoly of power. The government has announced its readiness to hold elections in which all Afghanistan's political forces, including the opposition parties, could take part. But these initiatives are finding no response in Peshawar.

The position of the leaders of the "alliance of seven" remains the same—all or nothing. Either the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan's withdrawal from the political stage or the continuation of war. In other words, unconditional capitulation is being demanded of a regime winning one victory after another. Naturally, the government rejects this ultimatum, confirming at the same time its wish to seek various compromises in order to end the bloodshed.

Specialists on Afghanistan with whom I have met are convinced that the Afghan knot has been tied in Washington. Neither Pakistan nor Saudi Arabia are ultimately exerting such decisive influence on the course of events as is the United States. U.S. military aid to the opposition members would only have to cease for the Pakistani authorities and above all that country's military ruling clique to be deprived of one of their most important arguments in favor of continuing the war in Afghanistan.

The point is that a substantial part of that aid sent almost exclusively through Pakistan is sitting in the pockets of Pakistani military men and officials. The existing situation suits them entirely. But if the flow of dollars dries up, the painful problems which the Afghan conflict is generating in Pakistan itself will inevitably come to the fore.

In brief, if Washington stops gambling on military aid to the opposition, it is unlikely that Islamabad will support the "Peshawar government" as unconditionally as it does now or reject the very possibility of peace talks with the Kabul regime.

The next few months should show whether the Americans are ready to show themselves to be political realists and to renounce unfeasible hopes and face reality. The 6 months which have elapsed since the Soviet troops' withdrawal have proved that the Kabul regime is a force which cannot be bypassed in solving the Afghan problem. Najibullah's government has held out—and that is the main political result of the past 6 months.

Armenia Victims Return From Treatment in Israel

LD1508203389 Moscow TASS in English 2006 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 15 TASS—A passenger airliner of the Israeli El Al company landed at Yerevan's Zvartnots Airport (Soviet Armenia). It brought 61 people who suffered from the earthquake last December.

Soviet central television reported today that this meant the end of the operation "healing". This is how the amalgamated distribution committee "Joint", the largest Jewish charity organisation in the United States, named its programme of aid to victims of the Armenian earthquake. The passengers of today's unusual flight spent seven weeks in the best Israeli hospitals. Very complicated operations were made on them, and they received prosthetic appliances produced according to the latest methods in medical science and engineering.

The operation "healing" which cost some 500,000 dollars, ended, but "Joint" continues its aid to Armenia. Aria Kuperstog, the project's chief organiser and director of the international development programme of "Joint", told the following to Soviet television: "We want to establish a children's rehabilitation centre in Leninakan". "Joint" hopes that its construction will begin soon: the design is ready. Besides, the charity organisation intends to shoulder training of Soviet doctors who will work at the centre.

Israel Labor Party Peace Plan Is 'Step Forward'

PM1608081989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Aug 89 Second Edition p 4

[Vladimir Belyakov dispatch under the rubric "Correspondent Comments": "Between Hawks and Doves"]

[Text] Cairo, 11 Aug—The Central Committee of the Israel Labor Party—one of the partners in the government coalition—has approved a 12-point "peace plan" at its session.

This plan is based on the same old proposal that elections be held on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip—a proposal put forward this spring by Y. Shamir, the Israeli head of government and leader of the "Likud" bloc, the Labor Party's rival. But on several provisions, S. Peres' party has gone further than the "Likud" bloc. Above all, it sees elections as just the first step on the road to a resolution of the Palestinian problem. They should be followed by talks with elected Palestinian leaders on an interim settlement, which is conceived as meaning the establishment of autonomy for the Palestinians on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip. At the next stage talks would be held on a final settlement. It is envisaged that Palestinians living outside the occupied territories would also take part in the talks, which theoretically opens the way for talks with PLO representatives. Unlike the "Shamir plan," it is envisaged that the residents of East Jerusalem would also take part in the elections, although Israeli sovereignty over them is immediately reaffirmed. The course of the elections could be monitored by representatives of countries that have diplomatic relations with Israel. It is planned to freeze the construction of settlements in the Israeli-occupied territories. After agreement is reached with the Palestinians on a phased settlement, the Israeli military authorities on the West Bank and in Gaza would be replaced by civilians.

Clearly, the Labor Party plan to a certain extent meets the Palestinians' wishes—namely, to place the idea of elections in the context of a final settlement and to ensure free expression of the will of the residents of the occupied territories and the participation in talks of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. But the plan also has many serious drawbacks. The main shortcoming is that although Israel's annexation of the Palestinian lands occupied in 1967, with the exception of East Jerusalem, has been declared unacceptable, the Labor Party plan rejects the very possibility of creating an independent Palestinian state on these territories. This, so to speak, is a precondition for the plan's existence. Another condition, or rather, a demand, is the ending of the "Intifadah"—the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories. These two key points are a major blemish on the overall impression, since, of course, neither point will suit the Palestinians. The plan has little chance of becoming the official Israeli Government course in the foreseeable future, since it is clearly unacceptable to the "Likud" bloc as well. All this has given Israeli journalists grounds for describing the Labor Party plan as a halfway house between the hawks and the doves. Nonetheless, I think that the plan is a step forward in the political thinking of one of the most important Israeli parties—a step taken under the influence of the "Intifadah" and the PLO's "peace offensive."

Soviet-Jordanian Committee Meets 9-14 Aug

LD1508153989 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1025 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow 15 Aug (TASS)—The first session of the Soviet-Jordanian intergovernmental commission on economic and scientific and technical cooperation took place here 9-14 August.

Tahir al-Masri, a minister of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, who was in the USSR on business during the work of the commission, had a meeting with Konstantin Katushev, USSR minister of foreign economic relations. There was discussion in prospects for further developing Soviet-Jordanian economic ties in various areas.

A protocol was signed on the results of the commission's work.

Cooperation Protocol Signed

JN1508153889 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow—A protocol for economic and technological cooperation between Jordan and the Soviet Union was signed in Moscow yesterday at the end of the first session of the Jordanian-Soviet committee.

During the committee meetings, which lasted 5 days, Tahir al-Masri, deputy prime minister and minister of state for economic affairs, reviewed with Konstantin Katushev, Soviet minister of foreign economic relations, ways to promote Jordanian-Soviet economic relations.

Independence Day Greetings Sent to India

PM1508105089 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Aug 89 Second Edition p 1

[Message from USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers to Ramaswamy Venkataraman and Rajiv Gandhi on Indian Independence Day]

[Text] To His Excellency Mr Ramaswamy Venkataraman, president of the Republic of India:
To His Excellency Mr Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of the Republic of India:

We send to you, and, through you, to all the people of friendly India cordial congratulations on Independence Day.

Soviet people welcome the impressive achievements of free India in the cause of boosting the national economy, science, and culture. Great India's voice rings out weightily in the international arena in favor of making the modern world safer, more just, and more humane.

The Soviet Union and India are old friends, and good friends. They are united by a common goal—to free the planet from nuclear weapons and violence and ensure peace and development for all members of the world community. Collaboration in international affairs is combined with the dynamic development of our countries' bilateral ties in the sphere of trade, the economy, science and technology, and culture.

Today, as a result of regular meetings at the highest level, Soviet-Indian cooperation is reaching fundamentally new heights. We are confident that its further strengthening, on the basis of the 1971 treaty and the 1986 Delhi Declaration, will meet the interests of our two peoples, universal peace, and security.

On the national holiday we wish the people of India happiness and prosperity, and we wish you, esteemed Mr President and Mr Prime Minister, good health and success.

[Signed] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium
The USSR Council of Ministers

Sub-Saharan Africa

Yazov Receives Somali Chief of Staff

PM1508184189 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Aug 89 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the USSR Ministry of Defense"]

[Text] On 14 August Army General D.T. Yazov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense, received Brigadier General Maslak Mohamed Siad [first name as transliterated], chief of the Somali Democratic Republic Armed Forces General Staff, who is in the Soviet Union at the head of a military delegation.

Somali Ambassador to the USSR A.E. Nur was present at the meeting.

Gorbachev Congratulates Congolese Leader

PM1508121189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Aug 89 Second Edition p 1

[Message from M. Gorbachev to Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Sassou-Nguesso!

Please accept our sincere congratulations on your reelection as chairman of the Congolese Labor Party Central Committee and president of the Congo. I wish you success in your work for the good of the Congolese people.

I express confidence that friendly relations between our countries and parties will continue to develop in the future.

[Signed] M. Gorbachev

East Europe

Polish Democratic Party Reviews Walesa's Statement

LD1508145789 Moscow TASS in English 1433 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Warsaw August 15 TASS—The Secretariat of the Polish Democratic Party Central Committee held a meeting here on Tuesday to review the contacts and talks concerning Lech Walesa's proposal for forming a coalition government by the Solidarity trade union, the Democratic Party and the United Peasants' Party, PAP news agency reports.

The Secretariat of the Democratic Party Central Committee published a statement which says that it positively evaluates progress reached at the talks, noting that the announced intention of Polish Premier Czeslaw Kiszczak to step down creates a new situation—more favourable prospects for continuing talks on forming a government of national confidence involving the three mentioned political forces.

We consider that everything should be done for Walesa's proposal, which received support in the Democratic Party circles, to be implemented, the statement points out. These issues will be considered at the meeting of the Democratic Party Central Committee Presidium on August 16.

Walesa Statement on Kiszczak Cited

LD1508184389 Moscow TASS in English 1815 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Warsaw August 15 TASS—The PAP news agency today released the following statement by Solidarity leader Lech Walesa:

I received the statement by General Czeslaw Kiszczak, which says about readiness to refuse to continue the mission to form a government and fulfil the functions of the chairman of the Council of Ministers, as a step stemming from the sense of responsibility for Poland, whose goal is to open new opportunities for resolving the present government crisis. Simultaneously, I fully support the stance adopted by me in the statement of August 7, 1989.

A government of national responsibility, put together, given respect for the prerogatives of the president of the Polish People's Republic, by the coalition of Solidarity, the United Peasants' Party and the Democratic party, is today the sole chance to change the course of developments, which is dangerous to the country.

Talks on Polish Government Coalition Continue

LD1508204489 Moscow TASS in English 2035 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Warsaw August 16 TASS—A statement issued by Poland's President's office on Tuesday said President of the Polish People's Republic Wojciech Jaruzelski expresses his uneasiness over the deepening instability of the political and economic situation of Poland. The President is planning to call representatives of the main political and social forces in the country to a joint meeting which will focus on the search for rational solutions. The president wishes this meeting to take place as soon as possible and calls for counteraction to socio-political emotions which interfere with reaching national accord and, consequently, aggravate still more the difficult conditions of life of the working people.

As it was already reported, Czeslaw Kiszczak whom the Sejm instructed to form a new cabinet arrived at the conclusion upon talks with representatives of the main political forces that there emerged opportunities for the formation of a "big coalition" government by leader of the United Peasants' Party, Roman Malinowski. The new situation formed after "Solidarity" leader Lech Walesa, having a negative stand with regard to a possible cabinet of Kiszczak, proposed the formation of a government on the basis of a coalition of "Solidarity" with the United Peasants' Party and the Democratic Party. Kiszczak expressed the intention to propose that the Polish president draw appropriate conclusions from this situation.

No reaction from Malinowski and the leadership of the United Peasants' Party has yet been forthcoming. The Secretariat of the Democratic Party Central Committee came out for the continuation of talks aimed at creating a government of national confidence in the spirit of the proposals of the "Solidarity" leader.

In a statement issued on Tuesday Walesa confirmed his idea of a tripartite government with the participation of "Solidarity", the United Peasants' Party and the Democratic Party. He appraised Kiszczak's readiness to give up the mission of forming a cabinet as a step prompted by a sense of responsibility for Poland and aimed at opening new opportunities for settling the current government crisis. The "Solidarity" leader said a government of national responsibility formed with preserving respect for the prerogatives of Polish president by a coalition of "Solidarity", the United Peasants' Party and the Democratic Party was at presented the only chance of altering the course of events dangerous for the country.

Jaruzelski Expresses Concern on Polish Crisis

PM1608084089 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Aug 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Talks Continue"]

[Text] Warsaw, 15 Aug—Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski is expressing concern over the deepening instability of the Polish political and economic situation, a statement published today by the Polish president's office says. He intends to propose to representatives of the country's main political and social forces that they participate in a joint meeting devoted to a quest for rational solutions. Seeking to hold this meeting as soon as possible, the president calls at the same time for resistance to sociopolitical emotionalism, which complicates the process of national consensus and thus exacerbates the working people's difficult living conditions.

As has already been reported, after talks with representatives of the main political forces C. Kiszczak, whom the Sejm had instructed to form a new government, came to the conclusion that in the existing situation possibilities existed for R. Malinowski, leader of the United Peasants Party [ZSL], to form a "grand coalition" government. The new situation arose after Solidarity leader L. Walesa, who holds a negative position regarding a possible Kiszczak cabinet, put forward a proposal for the formation of a government based on a coalition between Solidarity and the ZSL and the Democratic Party [SD]. Kiszczak expressed the intention of proposing that the Polish president draw the appropriate conclusions from this situation.

As yet there has been no reaction from Malinowski and the ZSL leadership. The SD Central Committee Secretariat came out in favor of continuing talks with the aim of forming a government of national confidence in the spirit of the Solidarity leader's proposals.

In a statement published today Walesa reaffirmed his idea of forming a tripartite government involving Solidarity, the ZSL, and the SD. He assessed Kiszczak's willingness to renounce the mission of forming a government as "a step based on a sense of responsibility for Poland, the aim of which is to open up new opportunities for resolving the present government crisis." According to the Solidarity leader, a government of national responsibility formed by a coalition of Solidarity, the ZSL, and the SD, with respect for the Polish president's prerogative, is today "the only chance of changing a course of events that is endangering the country."

Desecration of Soviet Graves in Poland Discussed

Sopot Graves' Desecration

LD1508115789 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] According to a report on Polish television, unidentified vandals have profaned the graves of Soviet servicemen at a cemetery in Sopot. Our correspondent Vladimir Mikhaylenko reports from Warsaw.

The television screen showed the ruins of the military cemetery, the wrecked memorial, the damaged railings of the fence, the overturned, broken and smashed grave stones bearing the names of the soldiers and officers of the Red Army whose remains lie in the (?dense) sands of the Polish Baltic region. The first impression was that tanks had driven through the cemetery.

On the night of 12-13 August, unidentified people carried out an act of vandalism, the newsreader reported dryly: 'If I knew that I would be able to find them I would have gone to Sopot yesterday,' a neighbor told me today as we passed the time of day. Don't be offended with the Poles. We find such treatment of graves unacceptable. It's the work of degenerates who don't care a fig about you or about us.

I tried several times today to phone Sopot, but the numbers I wanted were either engaged or else we were cut off. There was distant clicking and a protracted whining buzz in the receiver, and I had the impression that somewhere in Sopot, (?the wreckers were weeping and choking.)

Polish Spokesman Denounces Incident

PM1608095689 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Aug 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Vandalism Condemned"]

[Text] Warsaw, 15 Aug—PAP has issued a statement by a Polish Government press spokesman sharply condemning an act of vandalism perpetrated in Sopot at a mass cemetery of Soviet servicemen who died for Poland's liberation from fascism. The government, the statement says, expects everyone who values the sense of respect and gratitude to those who died to share its attitude to this act. More than 600,000 Soviet soldiers died in Poland to deliver it from Hitlerism, the document says. The destruction of their graves is an unworthy act with regard to the people of the Soviet Union. No political views or arguments can justify such barbarous actions.

The Sopot city internal affairs administration has begun an intensive investigation and is seeking the participants in the act of barbarism. The local authorities have begun to restore order at the cemetery. Volunteers are helping them.

Commentary on Incident

LD1608095689 Moscow International Service in Slovak 1700 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Vasiliy Lesovik commentary]

[Text] The Gdansk and Sopot events can be seen from various angles. In the complicated, and even tragic situation, which Polish society faces today, individual citizens sometime lose their restraint and basic dignity. Therefore we should ignore the individual fact, which must be seen as vandalism. As a Soviet journalist who lived in Poland for almost 10 years, I have become used to the quite different feelings of Poles toward Soviet soldiers. I repeat that perhaps we ought not to have spoken about it all. Yet similar acts have been committed before. A few months ago a memorial to Soviet soldiers in Krakow was desecrated. Andrzej Wajda expressed his regret on the occasion and blamed a small group of irresponsible boys. I do not know how old the people are who committed this immoral deed. Most likely, again they were iresponsible boys, friends of those who organized a noisy demonstration in Gdansk under the slogan: "To Destroy the Berlin Wall."

I would like to draw attention to the ADN agency reports. On the night between 12-13 August, a groups of criminals made their way from West Berlin to GDR territory and destroyed border buildings theres. Was it really only a coincidence?

The last thing. Fortunately the majority of the Poles, as well as my countrymen, cannot remember now the terrors of World War II. I admit it is possible that some of them do not even know that it started with an attack on a Gdansk postoffice and [word indistinct], about 10 kilometers from Sopot, from the place where a half century after its beginning the graves of the liberators wre desecrated. What is it in fact? The irresponsibility of boys or sacrilege of a memory? I find it my duty to speak about it and I support the view of the Polish governmental press spokesman in his statement. He described the damaging of the graves of the Soviet soldiers as an undignified act toward the USSR. No political views and arguments can justify this acts of barbarism.

GDR Politician Lauds Cooperation With USSR

LD1608082589 Moscow TASS in English 0710 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Berlin August 16 TASS—Heinrich Homann, chairman of the National Democratic Party of Germany (NDPD) and vice-chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic (GDR), has said that GDR's cooperation with the Soviet Union strengthens socialism and world peace.

Speaking at a meeting of the NDPD chief administration on Tuesday, Homann pointed out that this cooperation was based on decades of solid and time-tested friendship and trust.

Cooperation with the Soviet Union is vitally important for the German Democratic Republic. But, it is not the only reason why it supports Soviet restructuring. The GDR understands that the fate of socialism depends on the success of perestroika, Homann said.

The GDR and the Soviet Union are mutually interested in building socialism—this is their common goal. Of course, restructuring is sometimes followed by unpredictable events. many things turn out to be more complicated than expected. Therefore, it is important to understand the essence of restructuring, that it is aimed at developing the enormous material, spiritual, scientific and technological potential of the Soviet Union and overcoming outdated obstacles, including administrative methods and old thinking, Homann emphasised.

GDR, FRG Clash Over Emigration Issue

PM1608090989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Aug 89 Second Edition p 5

[Own correspondent M. Podklyuchnikov dispatch under the rubric "On the Spot": "Yesterday's Recipes"]

[Text] Berlin—In recent years the GDR has done a great deal to ensure that relations between it and the FRG develop normally. In particular, the number of reciprocal trips by citizens of both German states has increased. In the 1st 7 months of this year alone, for instance, the number of trips to the FRG and West Berlin by GDR citizens reached almost 3.3 million (it is apposite to recall, incidentally, that the GDR's population is 16.6 million). There would seem to be no reason for any problems in this area.

Yet recently the FRG has launched a propaganda campaign during which attempts are being made to besmirch the German socialist state's policy. The excuse chosen has been the actions of certain citizens who, wanting to travel to the West, preferred to seek illegal ways of doing so. The waves of propaganda from the FRG are bringing news of 131 people who have "occupied" the FRG mission in the GDR, hoping thereby to obtain immediate permission to emigrate. These people are currently huddled in offices, suffering "inhuman" conditions. There is an added report about a similar group in the FRG Embassy in Hungary.

Those who chose this course of action were clearly too trusting of West German propaganda, which has misled them. Since they have now found themselves in conditions falling far short of hotel standards, they might even win our sympathy, all the more so as they have been pawns in a political game.

A paradoxical situation is emerging. Under the treaty on the foundations of GDR-FRG relations, both sides recognize each other's sovereignty and independence and pledge not to interfere in each other's internal affairs. The GDR consistently adheres to all points of this document. In the FRG there is no shortage of statements about the desire to develop normal relations with the GDR. A few things have indeed been done in this direction. But, while recognizing the GDR as a sovereign and independent state, the FRG still does not recognize its citizenship. As far as West German legislation is concerned any GDR citizen is a "German citizen." And, naturally, this cannot fail to be a burden on relations between the two states. The citizenship problem has become a political lever which the opponents of normal relations can use at any moment to poison the atmosphere between the FRG and the GDR. Judging by everything, this is what is happening at the moment.

In the GDR the FRG's deliberate whipping up of the atmosphere prompts indignation. A GDR Foreign Ministry spokesman issued a statement recalling that under international law, FRG embassies cannot resolve matters relating to GDR citizens. Not least when it is a question of trips and visas. The implementation of so-called "duties of care" [obyazannosti po popecheniyu] is a typical great-German claim on the part of the FRG. Attempts to interfere in the GDR's internal affairs can only lead to serious consequences.

The newspaper NEUES DEUTSCHLAND has published letters from GDR citizens sharply condemning West Germany's propaganda campaign. Politicians who realize the negative nature of this campaign can also be heard in the FRG. The local press reports that Wolfgang Mischnick, chairman of the Free Democratic Party faction in the Bundestag, has condemned the inflammatory campaign against the GDR. Bundestag Deputy Horst Sielaff of the Social Democratic Party stated in an interview that the FRG's task cannot be to act as guardian for people in the GDR.

The organization of normal relations is a complex and subtle job requiring state wisdom, restraint, and a sense of responsibility. It is to be hoped that all these qualities will ultimately be displayed in the FRG.

Berlin Wall Has 'Saved Peace'

PM1508150189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Aug 89 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent M. Podklyuchnikov dispatch: "It Has Defended Peace"]

[Text] Berlin, 12 Aug—NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, organ of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] Central Committee, has written in detail about the significance of an event which took place 28 years ago. On 13 August 1961, following the recommendation of the Warsaw Pact member-states, the GDR took control over its border with West Berlin and the FRG. The concept of the "Berlin Wall," which some speak of with respect and gratitude and others speak of with extreme displeasure and even hatred, entered the international political lexicon.

Nowadays, when the idea of a common European home is becoming increasingly popular, the West often expresses the opinion that the "Berlin Wall" stands in the way of this idea. The common European home must, according to them, be such that neighbors can simply walk from one room to another.

We should point out, however, that even among neighbors it is usual to call in on one another only after knocking on the door first and asking to come in. In this connection, let us look back to the past and see what happened when the "door" between the GDR and West Berlin and the FRG stood wide open.

At that time revanchist, nationalist forces in the FRG certainly did not use this "door" to build good-neighborly relations with the GDR. Quite the reverse. Following all the rules of the "cold war," the West actively conducted subversive activity against the GDR. On the one hand, it endeavored to cause maximum economic damage to that country's national economy. It has been estimated since that this damage exceeded M100 billion—a sum of money with which it would have been possible to build 4 million apartments! On the other hand, the West made efforts to destabilize the GDR politically. Preparations were made for "Day X," when, so the revanchists dreamed, the West German Bundeswehr would march beneath the Brandenburg Gates with flags flying and the thunder of orchestras playing. These plans envisaged the violent elimination of the GDR and the reversal of postwar realities in Europe. They represented an enormous threat to the continent and behind them lurked the shadow of nuclear war. The "Berlin Wall" placed a solid barrier in their way. It saved peace. The secure borders of the GDR have been a very important factor of security on the European Continent and therefore throughout the world.

The date 13 August 1961 became a landmark beyond which the West began the process of rethinking its policies and bringing them into line with reality. This process moved in fits and starts, reflecting the antagonism between those who appreciated the demands of the changed situation and those who did not wish to part with the old illusions. But it progressed nevertheless. The Moscow Treaty between the Soviet Union and the FRG, the four-power agreement on West Berlin, and the treaty on the basic principles of relations between the two German states were landmarks on the road to strengthening peace. The way was also opened to an even broader postwar settlement on the continent with the Helsinki Final Act. Fundamentally new conditions of detente, cooperation, and good-neighborly relations began to take shape in Western Europe.

Demands that "the wall" be torn down are now a kind of mandatory political ritual in the West. They could make a strong impression on innocent people unaware of the reasons why the GDR border was taken under control 28 years ago. But what do these appeals really mean? They are nothing other than a demand to reopen the GDR borders and leave the "door" wide open, without any control.

One should not take a frivolous attitude to the events of that time, although this kind of attitude is frequently demonstrated by certain circles in the West, the newspaper stresses. Standing on the other side of the Brandenburg Gates and hurling abuse at the "Berlin Wall," they should not forget that it will not be pulled down as long as the conditions exist which led to its being built in the first place.

It is easy to see who would benefit from this by observing political life in the FRG—the persisting influence of neofascist forces, the way in which some people, even ministers, talk about restoring the Reich to "its 1937 borders," the refusal to recognize GDR citizenship, and the attempts to interfere in the GDR's internal affairs. All this shows that the potential for the old, dangerous trends is still there.

All these plans are illusory. The GDR will be able to defend its achievements and will continue to persistently and purposefully build socialism "in the colors of the GDR." The fact that the existence of two sovereign German states is one of the most important conditions of preserving peace cannot be removed from history, NEUES DEUTSCHLAND concludes.

Romanian Delegation Arrives in Moscow

LD1508153689 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1455 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow, 15 Aug (TASS)—A delegation from the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee, led by V. Barbulescu, secretary of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee, arrived in Moscow today at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

The delegation was met at the airport by V.P. Nikonov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Yugoslavia Unions Hit New Labor Relations Law

18070726 Moscow TRUD in Russian 1 Aug 89 p 3

[Article by A. Poroshin, TRUD correspondent, Belgrade, July: "Yugoslavia: Trade Unions Change Tactics; Disputes Over Trade Relations Law"]

[Text] The Government of the SFRY [Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia] is presently instituting major reforms in its economy oriented on market relations. The current forms of economic management have caused the adoption of new laws or fundamental changes in old laws. It was possible to get many of them through the Skuptsina in quick order and without any discussion by the delegates. It seems that another fate awaits the bill on labor relations. The submitted version of the law is the ninth. The eight previous versions were rejected for various reasons.

Judging by everything, the latest version also has quite a few opponents. For the first time in the postwar history of Yugoslavia, the trade unions have come out resolutely against the government bill. A search for ways for their own reform and attempts to assert themselves in the eyes of the workers have forced the trade unions to change their tactics, to reject the many years of silence and traditional support of any governmental orders, and to take a more critical approach in assessing a document which is so important to the workers. A new law, according to a statement of the trade unions, should not pass "without the blessing of the workers." But this is just what the government wants to avoid, thinking that a 3-month procedure for discussions will delay passage of the bill, and, consequently, the implementation of economic reform.

However, this is not the gist of the disagreement. Being in its character rather revolutionary, the bill, nonetheless, does not resolve a number of problems that directly affect the interests of the workers. And in a certain sense it even infringes on them. For example, it gives virtually unlimited rights to the directors of enterprises in the resolution of such questions as acceptance for work, compensation for labor, the assignment of people in production, and the organization of worker time. Not doubting the legality of production managers deciding such questions, the country's trade unions at the same time express uneasiness that such a practice can lead to serious abuse of authority, especially since, according to the bill, managers of enterprises have disciplinary responsibility only to those organs that appointed them to the positions they occupy. In the opinion of the trade unions, the new law should establish the institution of secret voting of the labor collective on the question of trusting their managers. It should be conducted twice: during the reelection of managers and in the event of unsatisfactory work by an enterprise.

The government did not take into account observations made earlier by trade unions that concern the right to strike and the discharge and punishment of workers who have committed offenses. It clearly defined the limits of disciplinary actions, and it let the administration retain the right to employ measures of influence, virtually eliminating the trade unions from this. Harsh disciplinary measures, in the opinion of government representative (Zorona Mishkovich), will enable "freeing the economy from negligent and lax" workers.

For these reasons, the competitive system for the acceptance of applicants to new work positions is being eliminated. In the opinion of the government, the introduction into the economy of market principles of economic management makes such a system superfluous. It is possible, but Yugoslavia has a large army of unemployed, many of whom tied their hopes of getting a job to the competition. The trade unions believe that the government took these hopes away from them and gave them nothing in their place.

According to the government bill, wages will be calculated taking into account what work an individual has contributed to the total income of the enterprise, i.e., according to end results. This does not raise objections from either the workers or the enterprises. The decision of the government to pay wages once a month was criticized. Because of high inflation, the trade unions assert, it is necessary to pay wages two or three times a month.

The proposed bill is assessed on the whole as an attempt to restrict the self-governing rights of the workers in favor of the introduction of the cruel conditions of the market. The trade unions have demanded that the document be submitted for discussion by the working class, and that it be submitted only after this for review by delegates to the Skuptsina. In the event that this condition is not met, the trade unions of Slovenia have threatened a general cautionary strike.

Commenting on the existing situation, (Anjelko Vasich), chairman of the Council of the Union of Trade Unions of Yugoslavia, declared: "Our demands are fully justified—the working class of the country has the right to know how the new law will affect it."

Adamishin Receives Yugoslavia's Ambassador

PM1508131789 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Aug 89 Morning Edition p4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 10 August A.L. Adamishin, USSR deputy foreign minister, received M. Veres, Yugoslav ambassador to the Soviet Union, at the latter's request.

Hungarian Minister Discusses Export Cuts

18250191 Moscow ARGUMENTY I FAKTY in Russian No 31, 5-11 Aug 89 p 2

[Report on interview with Hungarian Minister of Trade Tamas Beck by ARGUMENTY I FAKTY correspondent I. Morzharetto: "Reliable Partners Needed"; in Moscow, presumably in early August]

[Text] **One of the most critical, painful issues that was repeatedly raised at the recent Congress of People's Deputies and the continuing session of the USSR Supreme Soviet has to do with our country's foreign indebtedness. How are we to continue to trade when world prices for oil and other raw material are still low and we, unfortunately, still have little to offer in exchange?**

The situation is developing in a very unpleasant area for us. Several months ago the government of Finland announced a temporary discontinuation of deliveries to the USSR: The Finnish trade assets have reached levels beyond which credit is not granted. After Finland, Hungary announced a discontinuation of exports to the Soviet Union. What was the reason for this? Where should we look for a way out of this situation. ARGUMENTY I FAKTY correspondent I. Morzharetto asked Hungarian Trade Minister Tamas Beck, who was on a business trip in Moscow a couple of days ago, to discuss this.

[Morzharetto] Comrade minister, what brought about these measures?

[Beck] I do not know of a single Hungarian enterprise that would not like to trade with the Soviet Union; on the contrary, the majority of them are ready to increase their exports to your country. But today the Hungarian Government has been forced to take extraordinarily unpleasant, I would even say repulsive measures with respect to the USSR. We are doing this extremely unwillingly but, unfortunately, there is nothing else we can do because at this time we have assets of R366 million in trade with you.

Essentially you have exceeded all possible credit limits and we are not yet rich enough to engage in philanthropy. I was talking recently with one of the Finnish ministers—the same problem exists in Soviet-Finnish relations.

[Morzharetto] Does this mean that this year we will not see Hungarian goods on the counters of our stores or new Ikarus buses on the streets?

[Beck] Why? Yesterday I was speaking with the general director of the Ikarus plant, my friend (Andras Shemsei), and he told me that he would be glad to increase the export of buses to the USSR. But there are no counter-deliveries. According to the agreement, this year you are to deliver to us 10,000 Ladas and 400 Tavriyas, but so far we have not been able to sign contracts for these vehicles... If we were to receive these motor vehicles, I think the question of the buses would make some headway.

But for now I cannot but share my joy over the fact that last month the United States bought 450 Ikaruses from us. This shows their high class; after all America is the home of automotive production.

[Morzharetto] But the Ikaruses you are selling to the United States and the countries of Western Europe are different from those that carry our passengers in terms of comfort and many other characteristics.

[Beck] Yes, much different. This is caused, in the first place, by the price (each buyer can select the one most suitable for him), and, in the second place, I have seen new Moskviches on your streets, and you are still offering us the same old ones....

[Morzharetto] What goods would our Hungarian partners like to receive from the Soviets?

[Beck] We need the most diverse goods from the Soviet Union. I have already mentioned motor vehicles. We would be glad to purchase sporting goods from you and also household equipment, chemical preparations, preserved fish, timber and lumber materials, television sets, freezers, and bicycles.

[Morzharetto] How has the introduction of the open border policy in Transcarpathia affected our relations. Have new problems appeared?

[Beck] Yes, and quite a few of them. We have already had experience with an open border with Austria, but here we were totally unprepared. Each day 30,000-35,000 Soviet people come to our country from Soviet Transcarpathia and in the border villages there is not a single hotel nor even elementary sanitary conditions for receiving such a large number of people. In order for your citizens to be able to purchase everything they want, we have allotted additional goods running into millions of forints. But this alone is not enough. Reciprocal steps are needed. It would help a great deal if your control points operated not from 10 to 16 hours but 24 hours a day and if there were more of them—at least 10. Now Soviet citizens must stand for hours in order to cross into Hungarian territory and then they frequently cannot get home because the border is "locked" at 4 in the afternoon. Therefore they have to spend the night in the train stations or parks....

But still we are glad that the border between our two countries has opened up and we do not want to introduce any restrictive measures. We are in favor of doing everything we can to satisfy the needs of the Soviet citizens.

[Morzharetto] Comrade minister, where do you see the path to normalization of Soviet-Hungarian trade relations?

[Beck] We are now actively looking for trade partners not only in the capital, but also in the republics. We already have trade representation in operation in Leningrad, Tbilisi, and Uzhgorod. But this is not enough. Of course we would like to have trade representation in the Baltic republics, but we will never receive permission for this from Moscow.

We should like to conduct more extensive marketing activity, which has justified itself through the world, and only in our countries has it not become a daily practice. Once every several years we conduct magnificent exhibitions, trade fairs, days of science and technology.... Of course it is very nice of members of the Politburo to come there and shake our hands, but economically there is not much point in such measures. We must organize more specialized exhibits and meetings of specialists and establish direct communications not among members of the government, but among enterprises, and we must search for ways of expanding export-import operations.

[Morzharetto] And how do you assess our successes in this area?

[Beck] It seems to me that perestroyka is proceeding best somewhere at the top, but it is not yet being felt at specific enterprises. Last year at this time I was still general director of the enterprise and we tried to organize joint production with the Lithuanian association Linas. Nothing came of it at that time—the matter became bogged down in Moscow, where it is necessary to approve every step. And today our enterprises are surrounded by administrative barriers. There are immense difficulties with temporary assignments of Soviet specialists. We receive no answers to our letters, telegrams, and telephone calls to your departments. It is very difficult to work with you. It pains me to say this, but it is true.

We are looking for ways of improving our trade relations, but the Soviet side persistently offers us things we do not need. Negotiations have been underway for a year and we are at an impasse, and this is why we had to cut exports to the Soviet Union by 10-12 percent. I would like to believe that this is not for long.

[Morzharetto] Which country would be an example of a reliable business partner?

[Beck] Our best relations are with Austria. We have opened our border with them, established a most-favored-nation status in trade, and created many joint enterprises. Austrian investments play a significant role in our economy.

By 1992 Western Europe will be functioning as a unified organism and we must prepare for trade with it in the most serious way and solve in a year or two problems that have not been solved for decades. Take, for example, something very important—standardization. Our goods must meet international standards. Our work in this area within the framework of CEMA during the past 40 years has clearly been inadequate. We have not even been able to standardize a simple wine bottle. You will not accept our bottles and vice versa. We purchase television sets from the USSR but they must immediately be adapted because they do not meet Hungarian safety standards. Czechoslovak electrical outlets and plugs are different from Hungarian and Soviet ones. With respect to standardization of parts for motor vehicles we have also failed to take the smallest step forward in the past 30 years. Moreover in Western Europe there are a number of standards about which we simply do not know. But if we want to trade with them we must meet their requirements. For example, bed linen and children's clothing must be made only out of certain materials, and cans for preserves must be teflon-coated.

[Morzharetto] And so there is only one way out, and we must find it together....

[Beck] Of course.

Soviet Firm to Modernize Hungarian Nuclear Station

LD1508123889 Moscow TASS in English 1202 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Kharkov August 15 TASS—A foreign trade firm, set up at Kirov plant in Kharkov, has signed the first cooperation agreement with the Hungarian Paks nuclear power station. The Soviet firm has received an order to modernise the oldest nuclear power unit at the station with a capacity of 440,000 kilowatts.

"We will replace steel rotors, fix more effective blades and improve settings at both turbines made at our plant," said Mikhail Virchenko, the Kirov plant's chief engineer.

"It is not that we are concerned over these turbines' reliability. The replacement of the turbines' parts was timed to coincide with regular short-time shut-downs for check-ups and refueling. The first shut-down will be this autumn, and we have made the required parts. Thanks to the modifications, the power capacity of the unit will increase by 15,000 kilowatts with the same fuel consumption," Virchenko said.

The Soviet firm has concluded another contract with Bulgaria. It is planned to modernise eight kharkov-made turbines with a power capacity of 760,000 kilowatts at the Bulgarian Kozlodui nuclear plant.

The deliveries of finished units will begin next year, and the modernisation will be completed in the next five-year period (1991-1995). The Soviet firm guarantees the extension of the maximum term of operation and the increase of the plant's power capacity by 60,000 kilowatts.

The Kirov plant is a major exporter of power equipment, and its turbines are operating in many European, Asian, Latin American and African states.

However, it is much more profitable for the enterprise to have a foreign trade firm and conclude deals independently, as all foreign currency goes to its account, whereas earlier ministries took the lion's share.

Economic reforms in the Soviet Union are abolishing this injustice, establishing ventures' independence and granting them the right to directly enter the foreign market.

Economic Minister Meets With Bulgarian Counterpart

PM1508131989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Aug 89 Morning Edition p4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 10 August talks were held between K.F. Katushev, USSR minister of foreign economic relations, and A. Lukanov, Bulgarian minister of foreign economic relations. They discussed questions of trade and economic cooperation between the USSR and Bulgaria.

Ambartsumov Discusses Death of Brezhnev Doctrine

PM1408151889 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 13-14 Aug 89 p 3

[Interview with Yevgeniy Ambartsumov, "'Department chief at the Soviet Institute of the World Socialist System," by Ezio Mauro; date, place not given]

[Text] Moscow—"The Brezhnev doctrine is dead, though the official death notice has not yet been published. But nobody can revive it and events such as the invasion of Czechoslovakia will never again be repeated. Restructuring is following the path of the Prague Spring, even in its mistakes." Yevgeniy Ambartsumov, department chief at the Soviet institute of the World Socialist System, was in Prague in the sixties and watched Dubcek's "Spring" experiment taking place within society and the party. From Moscow, where he had returned, in 1968 he predicted the Warsaw Pact's military intervention, deeming it logical and consistent with Brezhnev's system of power and command. "As late as a month before our troops entered Prague some friends were sure that an armed intervention would be impossible, if for no other reason than that it would have shaken world public opinion. I, however, considered it a certainty, both because our leadership took no account of western opinion and above all because in Brezhnev's eyes the 'Spring' constituted an open threat to the Soviet domestic situation. All this has radically changed, and there cannot be another 1968." Now that the Hungarian communist party is rewriting the history of those years, condemning the intervention by Soviet tanks against Dubcek's experiment, Ambartsumov explained the change taking place in Moscow in relations between the Kremlin and the "satellite countries," though perestroyka has not yet rehabilitated the "Spring."

[Mauro] The Kremlin remains silent about 1968, whereas a reappraisal is going ahead in Hungary: Does this mean that the "Spring" still frightens people?

[Ambartsumov] I really would not say so, because over the years everything has changed. Now people in Moscow joke that tanks could enter Prague to eliminate perestroyka. Joking aside, even the silence on 1968 is starting to be broken and a stance against the invasion is starting to be adopted. Just a year ago a group of Soviet journalists who were correspondents in Prague in 1968 wrote their memoirs, and said that there was no reason to send the troops into Czechoslovakia. ARGUMENTY I FAKTY then revealed that there was opposition to the intervention even 21 years ago: Voronov, a member of Brezhnev's Politburo, voted against the invasion, defended his stance at a party aktiv meeting, and was expelled for that same reason.

[Mauro] What is now your personal opinion about the invasion that destroyed the "Spring"?

[Ambartsumov] It is not a new opinion. Even 3 years ago, at a debate in Bologna, I said that it was a tragic mistake and a violation of the principle of Czechoslovakia's sovereignty. After issuing that assessment, on my return to Moscow I was summoned to account for it to the Central Committee. But I did not alter my stance.

[Mauro] Why, however, does the Soviet Government not openly condemn this "error" of Brezhnevian stagnation, thus underlining the end of the doctrine of limited sovereignty?

[Ambartsumov] That doctrine is already dead and buried. All that is lacking is the official death notice. But everything Gorbachev says about relations between the East European countries—for instance at the latest Warsaw Pact meeting in Bucharest—makes it clear that events such as the invasion of Czechoslovakia and Afghanistan can never be repeated. That chapter is at last closed for good.

[Mauro] You say that these are Gorbachev's intentions, as is apparent from his speeches. But why can the general secretary not make an official act of reappraisal of Brezhnevian imperialism, starting precisely with Prague?

[Ambartsumov] Perhaps precisely because it is Prague. In my opinion Gorbachev has to take account of the position of the Czechoslovak leadership currently in power. And this, I believe, explained the cautious nature of some of his assessments.

[Mauro) But is this constraint of Realpolitik not still a result of the rationale of the socialist "camp"? Does the caution to which you refer not risk impeding perestroyka's credibility, thus curbing its progress?

[Ambartsumov] The facts speak for themselves, in the USSR like anywhere else in the world. And it is clear from the facts that Gorbachev is opposed to the rationale, method, and system that led to the tragic events of 1968. But in my opinion it is equally clear that Gorbachev, as leader of the Soviet Union, cannot jeopardize the solidarity and understanding essential between the so-called fraternal countries. Specifically, Gorbachev cannot permit himself now to adopt a stance that will subsequently be rejected by the political leadership of an allied country. This is an objective condition. It is also the reason why under present conditions Gorbachev must not be asked for more than he can and must do.

[Mauro] Is it to be understood that only practice can slowly eliminate the Brezhnev "doctrine," with no sharp ideological and political break accompanied by a historical reappraisal of events such as those in Czechoslovakia?

[Ambartsumov] No. I believe we will also reach a death notice on this defunct Brezhnevian theoretical approach. However, I believe I can say that a battle is now under way on this subject because it is a topic of open confrontation. The conservatives are worried. It is no coincidence that the latest letter from Nina Andreyeva, leader of the reactionary and nostalgic wing, states that there is a danger of a repetition of 1968. What does that mean? It is a crucial question because it raises the issue of sovereignty and autonomy. And for some people this question has not been resolved.

[Mauro] But the anxiety about the "fraternal" countries' growing autonomy is not only on the conservatives' part. Just the other day a very stern warning came from Foreign Ministry spokesman Perfilyev about the Polish situation and threats of a "destabilization" that could "harm alliance commitments" within the Warsaw Pact and "Soviet-Polish cooperation." Are these not the tone and the threats of another era—that of limited sovereignty?

[Ambartsumov] I do not think so. It is no secret to anyone that there are groups and circles in Poland that want to overthrow the alliances and to distance the country from the USSR. I visited Warsaw recently and saw and heard students shouting "Russia, enough" and "Russians go home." It is no coincidence that Brzezinski advised the Poles to be more cautious and reasonable with regard to both their attention toward the West and their links with the USSR.

[Mauro] But does this not prove what Solidarity says, namely, that the USSR is prepared to grant the eastern bloc countries autonomy but not sovereignty?

[Ambartsumov] The blocs do exist, and we cannot pretend to be suddenly shocked about the fact. So it is natural for our government not to gladly accept the prospect of a weakening of the bloc to which we belong, partly because it would alter the balances in Europe. This is what Perfilyev was talking about—not about anything else. I would add this: Now that Gorbachev has succeeded in extricating the USSR from Afghanistan nobody can embroil us in any other tragic adventures.

Gorbachev Anthology Published in CSSR

PM1608102389 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Aug 89 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Published in the CSSR"]

[Text] Prague, 12 Aug—Czechoslovakia's "Svoboda" Publishing House has published the first two volumes of selected speeches and articles by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, covering the period 1967-1985.

An article entitled "Path of Principled Changes" published in RUDE PRAVO is devoted to this event. Its author, Z. Horeni, member of the CPCZ [Czechoslovak Communist Party] Central Committee Secretariat and the newspaper's chief editor, analyzes Gorbachev's path from party worker at city and kray level to general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, leader of the Soviet Union, and a politician on the world scale.

The article stresses that the published materials are documents that discuss the path taken by the CPSU leading inevitably to the perestroyka of all Soviet society's life. They welcome the birth of the new political thinking and the creative application of Marxist-Leninist dialectics, which rely for their conclusions on a profound and comprehensive analysis of actual historic reality.

West Europe

Perfilyev Discusses Austrian EC Membership

LD1508114889 Moscow in German to Austria 1910 GMT 11 Aug 89

[From the statement by Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Vadim Perfilyev on 11 August 1989 during Moscow news conference—recorded]

[Text] Among other things, the memorandum [handed over on 10 August to the Austrian chancellor by the Soviet envoy to Vienna] underscores that the Soviet side has repeatedly expressed its understanding for the Austrian necessity to solve problems that might result from its relations with the European Communities in light of the upcoming formation of a European interior market. The memorandum says that the position remains unchanged. At the same time it is emphasized that the question of Austria entering the EC is not only characterized by economic aspects. It is a serious political question, because the European Communities, along with economic integration, also pursue the objective of forming a political alliance that would have joint foreign and security policies, including military aspects. Thus, the Soviet Government believes that the membership of a state with perpetual neutrality in such an organization as the EC would result in that state losing real opportunities to conduct a neutral policy.

While expressing its concerns over Austria's intentions to begin negotiations with the European Communities about its entry, the Soviet side concurrently hopes that maintaining perpetual neutrality, including any pertinent legal as political dimensions, continues to be Austria's top priority against any other considerations.

Apart from that, the Soviet Government assumes that Austria will strictly adhere to its obligations arising from the 1955 State Treaty. The Soviet Union as a signatory state to that document, which is an important element of postwar reality and stability in Europe, is certainly interested that it will also in the future reliably meet with its historical destination—to safeguard the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Austria.

Moreover, the Memorandum stresses that perpetual neutrality is not only an extremely valuable political good, but at the same time a significant political factor of stability, confidence, and bilateral [as heard] understanding all over Europe. The Memorandum also underscores that the neutral and nonaligned European countries, including Austria, have made a significant contribution toward improving the situation on the European continent over the last few years, and they still are doing so.

Taking into account all those facts, that groups of states' orientation—when it comes to looking for solutions that might promote overcoming the divisions of Europe regarding military, economic, and other aspects as soon as possible—gains a very special importance. The end of the Memorandum reads: The Soviet Union has always adopted an attitude of upright sympathy toward neutral Austria and has always highly estimated the good-neighborly relations with that country. The Soviet Union intends to stick to that same course in the future. The Soviet Government is firmly convinced that the persistent development of the USSR's cooperation with the Republic of Austria covering all fields, which is based on the all-out compliance with the State Treaty and the law on perpetual Austrian neutrality, will unvaringly serve not only the interests of our peoples but also the broader interests of peace and security in Europe.

It is remarkable that the issue is presented in such a way as to suggest that a neutrality is compatible with EC membership, as if it is an internal Austrian affair. However, you have just been able to satisfy yourself that the Memorandum gave a well-founded and comprehensive answer to such intentions. An Austrian entry to the EC is indeed an important political issue that not only concerns Austrian interests, but also other states' interests—it may lead to a change of power on the European continent with global dimensions, for most EC member countries are also NATO member countries.

Let me remind you that the 1955 State Treaty and the status of perpetual Austrian neutrality are connected organically. Besides, the Austrian unequivocal obligation of sticking to neutrality policy, established in the so-called Moscow memorandum of April 1955, was an important precondition for concluding the State Treaty. As a consequence, the USSR and Austria are bound by initial bilateral obligations regarding that issue.

Let me point out that the Soviet side was highly gratified to hear that the Austrian Chancellor Vranitzky, in connection with the Soviet Government's Memorandum, stated on 10 August that Austria, let me quote—will not budge a fraction of an inch from its policy of neutrality.

Yazov Departs for Official Visit to Finland

LD1608065589 Moscow TASS in English 0653 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 16 TASS—Soviet Defence Minister Army General Dmitriy Yazov left for Helsinki today on an official visit at the invitation of his Finnish counterpart Ola Norrback.

Arrives in Helsinki

LD1608082389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0745 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Helsinki, 16 Aug (TASS)—Army General D.T. Yazov, USSR minister of defense, arrived in Finland today on an official visit.

He was met at Helsinki-Vantaa Airport by Ole Norrback, the Finnish defense minister, generals and officers of the country's defense forces, and other officials.

B.I. Aristov, the USSR ambassador in Finland was among those who met him.

Later there was a solemn ceremony to meet the Soviet guest at the Finnish Defense Ministry which included military salutes.

Katushev Meets Finnish Trade Minister

PM1508132389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Aug 89 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading: "Exchange of Opinions"]

[Text] On 11 August talks took place between K.F. Katushev, USSR minister of foreign economic relations, and I. Suominen, Finnish minister of trade and industry, on preparing a new agreement on trade and payments between the USSR and Finland for 1991-1995.

Scandanavian Ministers' Meeting Results Reported

LD1608085289 Moscow TASS in English 0743 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Oslo August 16 TASS—The present state of East-West relations, the situation in the planet's hot spots and elaboration of common approaches to the solution of international and regional problems were the topics of this Tuesday's [15 August] regular meeting of North-European foreign ministers. Such meetings are called once every half a year. This time it was held at Isafjordhur, a townlet on the north-western tip of Iceland.

The ministers came out in support of the perestroyka process under way in the Soviet Union and in other socialist states, which, in their assessment, contributes to the strengthening of world stability, to the elaboration of new approaches to questions of international and European security. As to the northern region itself, it was moved to hold a joint conference of all Baltic states on problems of ensuring the ecological protection of the sea, pressmen were told by Uffe Elleman-Jensen, the foreign minister of Denmark. Such a conference, he pointed out, will not only help to save the Baltic Sea from pollution, but will promote further political and economic cooperation between states of that region. Preparations for it have already been started and it will be most probably convened [as recieved] in 1990.

The meeting devoted much attention to the situation in Namibia. The ministers went on record for lifting all sanctions against that country, political situation allowing. It was suggested in this connection to set up a working group including representatives of North-European countries. It will help to solve the serious economic difficulties involved in ensuring the activities of the United Nations Peace-Keeping Force.

At the end of the meeting Sten Andersson, the foreign minister of Sweden, informed his colleagues about the Swedish Government's latest initiatives to settle the conflict in the Middle East.

As noted by the Norwegian Telegraph Bureau, the current meeting of the North-European foreign ministers, as distinct from previous ones, was more productive both as regards agenda and concrete decisions. It was also held according to a new procedure: The foreign ministers of Iceland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland met separately without their counsellors and experts.

Swedish Paper Suggests Gorbachev for Nobel Prize

LD1508164389 Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Stockholm August 15 TASS—The Swedish newspaper DAGENS NYHETER suggests that the 1989 Nobel peace prize be awarded to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Gorbachev deserves this award for he has done more for peace than anyone could hope or expect, Svante Nycander, editor-in-chief of the newspaper's political department, pointed out. He wrote two articles analysing the development in the USSR.

When Gorbachev became leader, he acted as a reformer of the economy, strongly declared against thoughtless squandering of funds, wasteful economic management and backwardness. He changed the intellectual and political climate in the Soviet Union over four years and created relations of detente with the rest of the world, the Swedish journalist pointed out. These factors are interrelated. The domestic policy of reforms leads to much greater confidence in detente than the previous "thaw", he notes.

The Swedish journalist criticises what he describes as passive attitude of leading Western politicians to perestroyka in the USSR. Their pronouncements are polite in contents, but their actions bespeak of lack of confidence as regards Gorbachev's intentions and his abilities to keep control of the Soviet policy, Nycander notes. The U.S. policy in matters having a direct bearing on the Soviet Union has not altered over the recent years. The embargo on advanced technology on the whole remains, which restricts trade exchange of all Western countries with East Europe. The United States opposes the USSR's entry in GATT, the International Monetary Fund and the world bank for reasons that are political rather than economic. The USA is in no hurry to respond to Soviet proposals on disarmament, Nycander notes.

Nycander is of the opinion that the West should appraise more realistically the possible pace of reforms and attach more importance to the trends of development than to the remaining shortcomings that are many and serious. Those who say that the Soviet leader's policy means all but the heightening of the threat to security in the world and, because of its boldness, is doomed to failure simply do not want real changes.

The Swedish journalist emphasises the policy of reforms needs support from the West. "We should use every opportunity, large or small, to promote the development in the right direction," he emphasises.

Nycander calls for a broader debate in Sweden on its own policy and the West's line with regard to the Soviet Union at the present stage. "What is our attitude to the vision of the world Gorbachev set out in his United Nations address in December 1988 and his speech in the Council of Europe in July 1989? Our reaction is silence. We are engrossed in our own affairs and feel satisfaction that the cold war has been rolled back, at least for the time being", he writes. He notes that what happens in the Soviet Union should evoke response not only in real political and economic manifestations. Even token acts are of importance. If a Nobel peace prize can be awarded to politicians holding state posts, Gorbachev is the obvious candidate for the award this year, the Swedish journalist declares.

Latin America & Caribbean

Nicaraguan Peace Prospects Viewed

PM1608095489 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Aug 89 Second Edition p 5

[Vitaliy Korionov "Viewpoint" column: "After the Tela Agreement"]

[Excerpts] Yesterday the Nicaraguan Government took yet another humane step: More than 1,000 peasants who were serving sentences for participation in armed acts by Contra gangs were released. At the same time border units of the Sandinist People's Army received an order not to prevent Contra groups who have decided to stop the armed struggle from crossing from Honduras into Nicaragua. An amnesty is guaranteed for all members of the "Nicaraguan Resistance" both in Nicaragua and in Honduras, provided that they lay down their arms and return to a peaceful life.

Everyone can see that the Sandinist government is scrupulously fulfilling its commitments under the agreements reached by the presidents of the five Central American states at the conference in the little Honduran town of Tela. It is a question of commitments relating to the consolidation of the process of national reconciliation and the continuation of democratization processes. [passage omitted]

The policy of national reconciliation and the constructive line of the participants in the Tela meeting are clearly making progress. Does this mean that from now on one can give way to complacency? I think it must be said quite clearly: No, it does not mean that. The process of reaching final solutions is still only fragile, and many reefs could still be encountered along its route.

The military defeat of the Contras is obvious to everyone. Apart, perhaps, from the "irreconcilable" wing in their camp. Its representatives assert that the "Five" showed "weakness" in Tela, and declare their intention of returning to Nicaragua "carrying arms." Some of these extremists demand that Washington grant them "most-favored status," since they say they were "defending U.S. interests."

Such claims are largely due to the fact that certain circles in the American capital still do not intend seriously to review their old course. The UPI agency, for instance, reports bluntly: "It does not look as if the Bush administration will adhere to the plan for disarming the Contras. Representatives of the administration want them to continue to put pressure on Managua with a view to guaranteeing the holding of honest elections." Yet the agreements of the "Five" were in general well received among the internal Nicaraguan opposition. In particular, many opposition parties supported the Sandinist government's call for disarmament of the Contras before the holding of elections.

The significance of the "Five's" August accords goes beyond the bounds of Nicaragua. Their consistent implementation offers a real opportunity of achieving peace and concord throughout the region.

In this connection the actions of the American military in Panama cannot go unnoticed. No sooner had the world learned of the adoption of the "Tela Declaration," than reports began arriving from Panama to the effect that the U.S. Armed Forces had escalated the provocations against that country. The U.S. Southern Command has begun to carry out daily maneuvers and ostentatious movements of its armed forces between bases, apparently counting on whipping up the situation in that country too. And this is happening at a time when the Panamanians are embarking on national dialogue after a 2-year political crisis.

Success at the five presidents' meeting in Tela was achieved with difficulty by the peoples of the Central American region. Their vital interests demand that this beneficial process develop further, yielding increasingly fruitful results.

Communist Youth Congress Document Cited

PY1508174789 Moscow in Spanish to Chile
2000 GMT 14 Aug 89

[Text] The boys and girls with red shirts [amaranto] are beginning to passionately discuss the problems of the Chilean youth movement at their eighth national congress. In this they are united with the people, all the youngsters who are interested in the struggle for a better world, for democracy, for a free Chile. They are the rebellion's children who grew up during the dictatorship. They are determined to continue to struggle for the people until victory.

We are the rebellion's children. This is the subtitle of the chapter "The Communist Youth, the Policy of Popular Mass Rebellion and its Development in the Youth," contained in the invitation to that congress. The document says: With responsibility and pride, we declare ourselves to be the rebellion's children who grew up in these difficult times under this policy. Its formulators are living proof of the justice of this policy. We are the J [for Communist Youth] who have participated in our people's heroic battle, with the people who assumed an active role in the first hunger marches, the destabilizating mobilizations, civil disobedience, student stoppages, sit-ins, nationwide protests, hunger strikes, occupation of major roads, confrontations with repressive forces, land occupations, takeovers of international organizations' offices, national strikes, and the all-out struggle of 1986.

We are—the invitation adds—the youth of [passage indistinct]. We are the youth of the student elections, the voluntary work; the youth who entered their names in the electoral registration offices and who, by saying no until victory, contributed to the triumph of the 5 October plebiscite; the youth of [word indistinct], the homages to Pablo Neruda, and the sabotages. We are the youth who worked for the Mapuche people to recover their land, for the campaign for the [word indistinct] of solidarity in exile. We are the youth of songs and poetry to the fallen. We are the youth who have decidedly struggled for unity; the youth who are part of the left—the youth of the Democratic and Popular Movement and of the United Left, which have strengthened the country, and of the Coordinating Board of Opposition Youth, which has promoted the democratization of the juvenile organizations.

Our objective is to remain steadfastly antifascist always and everywhere. We are the youths who have given up jobs, studies, and family life to conquer democracy for Chile. We are the youth of those who have been arrested and made to disappear; of those who withstood torture while unjustly jailed. We are intransigent fighters for human rights; we are the youth of the J and the red shirt.

In our next program we will continue to air the invitation to the Eighth Congress of the Communist Youth of Chile.

USSR-Costa Rican Announcement Published

PM1508120389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
13 Aug 89 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Joint Announcement on USSR Supreme Soviet Delegation's Visit to Costa Rica"]

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by A.A. Mokanu, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet, was in Costa Rica 6 through 11 August 1989 on an official visit at the invitation of the Costa Rica Legislative Assembly.

The delegation was received by Costa Rica President O. Arias Sanchez, who was given a verbal message from M.S. Gorbachev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The members of the Soviet delegation met with Costa Rican Foreign Minister R. Madrigal Nieto. There were talks with A. Arias Angulo [name as transliterated], president of the Legislative Assembly, and other members of the assembly leadership, leaders of party factions in parliament, and deputies. There was a meeting with members of the Supreme Legislative Tribunal.

Those taking part in the talks exchanged opinions on topical international problems and questions of bilateral relations and informed each other of the activity of the two countries' parliaments. The Legislative Assembly deputies described the forthcoming celebration of the centenary of Costa Rican democracy, which will be celebrated in November this year.

The Soviet representatives answered questions connected with the present stage of perestroyka in the USSR, the progress of political and economic reforms, the development of the processes of democratization and glasnost in all spheres of society's life, the recent first

Congress of USSR People's Deputies, the Address to the peoples of the world which it adopted, and the work of the new Supreme Soviet. It was stressed that despite the internal nature of perestroyka, born of the country's urgent needs, it is an inalienable part of the universal process of democratization gathering momentum in the world and the USSR's contribution to the solution of the global problems facing human civilization.

The USSR Supreme Soviet deputies described the concept put forward in the United Nations by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries for an all-embracing approach toward safeguarding security and disarmament and creating a nonviolent world and the proposals aimed at putting this concept on a practical plane.

The Legislative Assembly deputies stated their support for steps aimed at ensuring lasting and just peace throughout the world and attaining real disarmament and universal security for states.

The Soviet and Costa Rican parliamentarians noted the consolidation of positive trends in the development of the international situation, which is characterized by the transition from confrontation to the assertion of a climate of trust, collaboration, and cooperation between states in various fields. Noting with satisfaction the coincidence or proximity of their approaches toward questions of ensuring mankind's peaceful future, the sides stressed the need to seek and find, through the joint efforts of all states great and small, mutually acceptable solutions for the problems facing mankind for the sake of the conservation of universal peace and the progress of civilization.

Mutual concern was voiced at the conservation of a number of hotbeds of regional tension, including the Central American conflict. The sides were unanimous in the view that a just political settlement in Central America is possible only with the strict observance of fundamental principles of international law like respect for sovereignty, noninterference in internal affairs, and the inalienable right of every people to free elections and the free determination of its path of development.

The two countries' deputies noted with satisfaction the headway in unblocking the critical situation in the region, which has become possible thanks to the Guatemala and El Salvador accords reached by the presidents of the Central American countries and the readiness they have displayed for compromise and for the search for a mutually acceptable balance of each other's interests. The latest meeting of heads of state of Central America in Tela (Honduras), which adopted political decisions within the "Esquipulas-2" process, was a new step on this path. It is important that all states of the world should, through specific political steps, support the will of the Central Americans, enshrined in these agreements, for the prevention of the strong-arm solution of the regional crisis and the finding of solutions to existing problems exclusively through peaceful means, through talks.

In this connection the members of the Soviet delegation noted that the USSR assesses highly the peace-loving efforts of the leadership of Costa Rica and its president O. Arias in settling the conflict in Central America, developing the Guatemala process, and asserting democratic principles in the region.

The Soviet Union is ready to continue to actively promote the normalization of the situation in this region and the assertion of peace, good-neighborliness, and equal cooperation between the Central American countries, respecting the choice their peoples have made.

The sides expressed themselves in favor of restructuring the system of international economic relations on the basis of the principles of justice and equal rights for all countries. The Soviet parliamentarians stressed the USSR's readiness to render practical assistance in resolving this problem, as stated in M.S. Gorbachev's speech in the United Nations. For their part the Legislative Assembly delegates described Costa Rica's experience in seeking its own way of resolving the foreign debt problem. The opinion was voiced that it is impermissible to use economic and financial levers as a tool of political pressure and that it is necessary to settle foreign debt problems with a consideration primarily of the interests of the developing states.

The Soviet and Costa Rican deputies expressed themselves in favor of transferring the enormous sums spent on arms production and the maintenance of armies to peaceful aims, including the solution of the developing countries' socioeconomic problems. In this connection the members of the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly described the experience of their country, where the dissolution of the armed forces makes it possible to avoid diverting the necessary resources from the needs of health, education, and so forth. Both sides expressed themselves in favor of the firm assertion of the principle of "development instead of armament" in international practice.

The two countries' parliamentarians voiced serious concern at the aggravation of the ecological situation on the planet. They stressed the vital need to pool the efforts of all peoples of the world and all political and social forces to preserve man's habitat and to save civilization from ecological disaster.

The deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly expressed satisfaction at the progress in the development of mutually advantageous Soviet-Costa Rican relations including along parliamentary lines and expressed the hope for their further expansion, which would accord with the interests of both countries and the cause of strengthening mutual understanding between the Soviet and Costa Rican peoples.

The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation passed on an invitation to the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly to send a delegation on an official visit to the Soviet Union at a convenient time. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

USSR, Nicaraguan Aides View UNGA Agenda

PM1508132189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Aug 89 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 9-10 August Soviet-Nicaraguan political consultations were held in the USSR Foreign Ministry on questions concerning the agenda of the forthcoming 44th session of the UN General Assembly.

Political & Social

Text of Draft Law on Labor Disputes Published

PM1508160689 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Aug 89 Morning Edition p 1

["Draft USSR Law on the Procedure for Resolving Collective Labor Disputes (Conflicts). Submitted by the USSR Council of Ministers and All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions. Given Its First Reading by the USSR Supreme Soviet"]

[Text] Article 1. Collective labor disputes (conflicts) over questions of the application of existing labor legislation and the imposition of new socioeconomic working and living conditions or the amendment of existing conditions between labor collectives (collectives of individual structural components) and the administration of an enterprise, institution, or organization, or higher sector (intersector) organs of management, or executive committees of local soviets of people's deputies are examined:

a) by conciliation commissions;

b) by labor arbitration services [arbitrazh].

The interests of the labor collective are represented by its elected organ (trade union committee, labor collective council, or other).

Article 2. With a view to preventing a labor conflict, the organs to which a collective addresses its demands must examine them immediately and announce their decision within no more than 3 days. The demands made and the decisions adopted on them should be set forth in writing and brought to the attention of the entire labor collective.

The administration and the trade union committee must promptly inform local soviets of people's deputies and higher economic and trade union organs about each instance of a collective labor conflict.

Conciliation commissions are formed from an equal number of representatives of the sides. Conflicts are examined within a 5-day period. The commissions consult with labor collectives, the administration, local soviets of people's deputies, higher economic and trade union organs, and other interested organs, and must use every means at their disposal to settle the conflict that has arisen.

Article 3. In the event of failure to reach agreement in the conciliation commission or nonfulfillment of its decision, the sides have the right to appeal to the labor arbitration service.

The decision of the conciliation commission may be the subject of an appeal to the labor arbitration service by local soviets of people's deputies and higher economic and trade union organs in the event that the decision is contrary to existing legislation.

Article 4. A labor arbitration service is set up under the Supreme Court of a union republic (without oblast divisions) or autonomous republic, or under the kray or oblast (city) court.

The labor arbitration service includes people's deputies of the soviet on whose territory the conflict has arisen and representatives of the higher trade union organ and the organ for labor and social questions, as well as a member of the corresponding court as chairman. The size and membership of the labor arbitration service for each collective labor conflict is determined by agreement between the sides and confirmed by the chairman of the court under which the arbitration service is to be formed.

A declaration of intent to examine a labor conflict is submitted to the Supreme Court of the autonomous republic or the kray or oblast (city) court, or in republics without oblast divisions, to the union republic Supreme Court.

The conflict is examined by the labor arbitration service, with compulsory participation by representatives of the sides.

The arbitration service must adopt a decision within 7 days from the adoption of the declaration.

The decision of the arbitration service is binding, if the sides have so agreed at the time of submission of the declaration.

The labor arbitration service has the right to submit a special report [predstavleniye] to the higher economic and trade union organs with regard to officials through whose fault a collective labor dispute has arisen. The higher economic and trade union organs report to the labor collective on the results of their examination of this report.

Article 5. The sides and conciliation organs must use every opportunity to eliminate the causes and circumstances giving rise to the collective labor conflict.

In the event that the conciliation commission and labor arbitration service are unable to settle the sides' differences, the reasons for this are to be brought to the notice of the labor collective in writing.

The labor collective has the right, in order to satisfy its demands, to use all other methods stipulated by law, up to and including a stoppage of the work of the enterprise, institution, or organization or individual structural component (a strike).

A strike is an extreme measure for resolving a labor conflict. The decision to strike is adopted at a meeting (conference) of the labor collective by secret or open ballot and is deemed to be adopted if a majority of members of the collective (conference delegates) vote in favor of it. The strike is headed by a trade union committee, labor collective council, strike committee, or other organ authorized by the labor collective.

The administration should be given no less than 5 days' notice in writing of the start of a strike and its possible duration.

No one may be forced to participate or to refuse to participate in a strike.

Article 6. In exceptional cases the holding of a strike may be postponed (suspended) by the union republic Supreme Soviet for up to 1 month and by the USSR Supreme Soviet for up to 2 months.

Article 7. A labor collective participating in a strike and its elected representative organ must take necessary measures to ensure the observance of order at the enterprise, the protection of state and public property, and the safeguarding of socialist legality and public law and order.

Article 8. Stopping work as a means of resolving a collective labor dispute is not permitted if it creates a threat to people's life and health, or at enterprises and organizations in rail and urban public transport (including the subway), civil aviation, communications, the power industry, and defense sectors (except for components producing civil output), or in state organs, or at enterprises and organizations charged with the fulfillment of tasks to ensure the country's defense capability, law and order, and security, or in continuously operating production units where a stoppage entails grave and dangerous consequences.

Article 9. Strikes are deemed illegal and are not permitted in the following circumstances:

a) for reasons connected with the putting forward of demands that are contrary to the USSR Constitution or that seek to change the Soviet state and social system by force, or demands that entail violations of national or racial equality;

b) if the strike is announced without observing the provisions of Articles 2 and 3 of the present law;

c) if the strike begins or continues in violation of the requirements of Articles 5, 6, and 8 of the present law.

The decision to declare a strike illegal is adopted by the Supreme Courts of union republics (without oblast divisions) or autonomous republics or by kray or oblast (city) courts following an objection by the prosecutor.

The decision to declare a strike illegal entails the ending of the strike.

Article 10. Workers participating in a strike (other than those deemed illegal) retain their job (post), their total and continuous term of service, and their right to state social insurance.

Article 11. During a strike the workers of the enterprise, institution, or organization or individual structural component do not retain their wages, except in cases where an appropriate insurance fund has been set aside for these purposes under the collective contract at the enterprise.

For workers not taking part in a strike but unable to carry out their work because of it, the enterprise must maintain wages at a level no lower than that specified in Article 43 of the Fundamentals of Legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics on Labor for cases of stoppages for which the worker is not to blame.

Article 12. Participation in an illegal strike is regarded as a violation of labor discipline and entails the application of the disciplinary penalties specified in Article 56 of the Fundamentals of Legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics on Labor.

Leaders responsible for the emergence of collective labor disputes or for delays in the fulfillment of the decisions of the conciliation commission or labor arbitration service are subject to disciplinary proceedings up to and including dismissal from their post, and in the event of material damage being caused by their actions, may be held materially responsible to the extent of up to 3 months' salary.

Further Reportage on Estonian Strike Situation

Estonian Supreme Soviet Discusses Strikes

LD1508171389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1653 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Tallinn, 15 Aug (ETA - TASS)—A session of the Estonian Supreme Soviet Presidium discussed the political situation in the republic here today.

Arnold Ryuytel, chairman of the Estonian Supreme Soviet Presidium, delivered a report on and a review of the course of the strikes in the republic. He also reported that a group of people's deputies of the USSR has arrived in the republic to acquaint itself with the situation in Estonia.

3,000 Freight Cars at Standstill

LD1508161989 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Excerpts] On Monday night [14 August], Estonian television broadcast an interview with Valjas, first secretary of the republic's communist party, on the Estonian and Russian languages. [passage omitted] As Livitskiy, IZVESTIYA's Tallinn correspondent, reported, the situation in Estonia has become more complex over the last 24 hours. Yet another pit has stopped working. The railwaymen from the Ulemiste station have stopped work. Now all stations surrounding Tallinn have stopped accepting freight. More than 3,000 freight cars have accumulated.

Answering the question whether the railwaymen's strike does not threaten the life of the city, Palu, deputy chairman of the Estonian Council of Ministers, replied that the decision that was adopted will disperse the freight to other stations of the republic in order to supply everything essential for Tallinn.

However, something is evidently not quite right. A little more and all railways will be jammed. Passenger trains also will come to a standstill. At 1200 on Tuesday work stopped in 51 enterprises. Meetings are in progress at other enterprises, too, SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA, the republican newspaper, published a selection of reports: Estonia seen from the West. One would think that acquaintance with objective evaluations from outside would help to make everybody's individual opinion more precise, but the newspapers published in the Estonian language did not print this selection.

Trade Union Appeals to Parliament

LD1608111289 Moscow TASS in English 1051 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 16 TASS—The All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions (AUCCTU) voiced concern over recent developments in Estonia, in an appeal addressed to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of this Baltic republic.

The appeal, carried today by the trade union newspaper TRUD, notes that the election law passed by the Estonian Supreme Soviet, establishing a residence requirement, was seen by a considerable part of the republic's population as an infringement of a basic civil right: The freedom to vote and run for office. "Such limitations run counter to the provisions of the Soviet constitution and the norms of international law," the document stresses.

"Objectively these decisions lead to a split of the republic's working class on ethnic grounds, to confrontation in labour collectives and to the building up of political and social tensions. This path leads up a blind alley and harms, primarily, ordinary people and workers. They stand to suffer most from disorganisation in the economy, political and social life."

The appeal calls on the Estonian Supreme Soviet and its Presidium to display consideration and political wisdom and reexamine issues connected with the election law, proceeding from the need to ensure equal voting rights for all citizens in the republic.

"The current situation can be redressed only in a democratic way, through broad dialogue and strict observance of constitutional norms and the legitimate interests of the population on the basis of national consensus," the appeal says.

Further on Strikes

LD1308105189 Moscow TASS in English 1016 GMT 13 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 13 TASS—Twenty six industrial enterprises of Tallinn, capital of the Soviet Republic of Estonia, are totally or partially on strike, TRUD reported today. About half of 35,000 workers employed there are taking part in it. Work was stopped at 13 mills and factories of the city of Kohtla-Jarve. Since today is a day off at most of the enterprises, strikes are expressed mostly by pickets at gatekeepers' officers.

The situation in the cities continues to be tense. However, although drivers from a major branch of the bus depot are on strike, public transport is functioning normally thanks to drivers from other cities and regions of the republic. Their assistance was also valuable in organising the supply of food to food stores. According to an officer on duty of the republican Interior Ministry, there were no serious incidents during four days of the strike.

According to TRUD, the work stoppage is threatening to upset the economic mechanism of the republic which is not resistant enough to crisis situations. For example, trains with unloaded cargoes are accumulating at two out of three cargo railway terminals of Tallinn. If the unloading is not resumed on Monday, the situation in this sector wil become critical. A serious disruption of passenger traffic is also possible.

The strikers added new demands to the previous ones—the lifting of the republican law on elections because it violates the USSR Constitution and the rights of a considerable part of the Estonian population, and the suspension of the law on the language. The republican strike committee issued an appeal urging not to take a decision on making industrial enterprises with a prdominantly Russian-speaking labour force the property of the republic.

A resolution of the Presidium of the Estonian Supreme Soviet demanding the termination of the strikes evoked an active protest of the Russian-speaking part of the republic's population.

The Amalgamated Council of Labour Collectives, an organisation rallying labour collectives where Russian-speaking workers make up a majority of the workforce, announced its soldiarity with the strikers. This officially registered organisation has a solid material base and high prestige.

The strike committee decided to hold talks from, now on only on a government level. "Perhaps, this is the way out of the situation," the newspaper wrote.

Report on Estonian Developments

PM1508155589 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Aug 89 Morning Edition p 3

[Own correspondent L. Levitskiy report from Tallinn: "If Only There Were Sufficient Restraint and Prudence"]

[Text] A meeting was held Sunday evening between V. Vyalyas, first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee, and members of the Tallinn city strike committees. It was a difficult meeting, but the main thing is that hope emerged that a dialogue would be started and that the conflict would ease.

V. Vyalyas talked about what had been accomplished in the republic over the past year. The main achievement is the population's growing confidence in the possibility of independently resolving all issues—economic, political, and social. The Estonian self-management program—the program for republic economic accountability on whose implementation we are embarking—he noted, should unite all the republic's inhabitants. At the same time, many mistakes have been made and the haste has not always been justifiable. Only now are we starting to think about setting up a mechanism to protect the interests of the Russian-speaking minority at all levels. The current sharp exacerbation of the situation in the republic, which has assumed the overtones of interethnic contradictions, has largely been brought about by the lack of such a mechanism.

V. Vyalyas agreed that a number of the strike committees' demands reflect real problems, but they should be resolved around the negotiating table, rather than by ultimatums. Answering questions about whether the law on elections to local soviets and the republic Supreme Soviet Presidium resolution banning strikes and threatening prosecution for those who take part in them would be changed, V. Vyalyas said that, in his opinion, these documents still require further work, and he gave an assurance that nobody will be punished for taking part in strikes provided they have not broken any specific laws.

V. Vyalyas called on his own behalf and on behalf of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee, the Estonian Government, and the Estonian Supreme Soviet Presidium for the strikes to be halted in connection with the start of work by the USSR Supreme Soviet commission that has arrived in Tallinn.

At the end of the meeting M. Lysenko, deputy chairman of the strike committees' council, thanked V. Vyalyas for his frank speech and apologized for the excess of emotion in individual speeches. At the same time, he stated: The strike committees' opinion is unanimous—the strike will go on, we no longer believe the promises from the republic's leaders. There have been many such promises, and not a single one has been fulfilled. We very much want to work, and we will go back to work as soon as we see a desire to meet our demands...

On Monday evening television broadcast an interview with V. Vyalyas, first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee, in Estonian and Russian. He called for good sense, restraint, and calm from the republic's entire population. He appealed to labor collectives to go back to work...

At the meeting between strike committee members and V. Vyalyas it was reported that a number of documents have been removed from the strike committee at the Baltic Ship Repair Plant. The next morning I talked with metalworker A. Lukashov, chairman of the enterprise's strike committee, and Chief Engineer V. Kovalenko, deputy chairman of the labor collective council. They said:

"A few days ago an official from the Prosecutor's Office came to the plant. He demanded a number of documents as preparation, in his words, for a criminal case; but he was unable to show us a resolution instituting criminal proceedings or a warrant for the documents. Two militia captains—V. Zvyagintsev and V. Mitryayev—arrived Monday. They too referred to a resolution instituting criminal proceedings, stating that it was entitled 'On the Instigation and Organization of Strikes at Tallinn Enterprises and, Specifically, at the Baltic Ship Repair Plant.' The militiamen removed the official record of the collective's general meeting which called the strike, and the labor collective council decision on remuneration for those not participating in the strike. As they left they noted: There is nothing illegal in your activities."

There have been calls about enterprises being visited by Prosecutor's Office and militia staffers from other places too. What is curious is that they ask questions like: Was it not the enterprise leaders who forced the men out on strike? Whatever the explanation for these visits, the response to them has been indignation and increased tension on the part of the workers. Today there is no doubt that the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet Presidium resolution on measures to ensure legality and law and order in the republic—a resolution aimed at putting an end to the strikes and at encouraging the republic Prosecutor's Office to institute criminal proceedings in connection with the strikes—has prompted many collectives to down tools.

I must also say that the Estonian People's Front insists on the implementation of the republic Supreme Soviet resolution banning strikes. The published statement by the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the Estonian People's Front condemns material published by some central newspapers which, together with local strike leaders, have supposedly taken on the role of instigators of interethnic dissension. The Council supports the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet resolution dated 10 August 1989 "On Measures to Ensure Legality and Law and Order in the Republic" and awaits its unconditional fulfillment...

The situation in Estonia became more complex in the last 24 hours. One more mine came to a halt. Railroad workers at Yulemiste Station stopped work. All stations around Tallinn have now ceased accepting freight. Over 3,000 railroad cars have piled up. On Saturday I asked P. Palu, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, whether the railroad workers' strike threatens the city's life.

"We have decided to disperse freight to other stations in the republic. We will thus supply Tallinn with everything necessary," he replied.

Which is evidently not happening. All tracks will be blocked in a short while. Passenger trains will also stop running.

Work had stopped at 51 enterprises as of 1200 hours Tuesday. Rallies are being held at others.

The republic newspaper SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA published a selection of materials entitled "Estonia: The View from the West." One would have thought that familiarization with objective appraisals by outsiders would help each and every one to clarify his opinion. But this compilation was not published by Estonian-language newspapers...

Vyalyas Meeting With Strikers Applauded

PM1508161189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Aug 89 First Edition p 3

[Special correspondents A. Petrushov and V. Shirokov dispatch: "Around the Negotiating Table"]

[Text] Tallinn, 15 Aug—A USSR Supreme Soviet commission headed by G. Tarazevich arrived in Tallinn today, 15 August. The reason why it has come is to meet with representatives of strike committees and the republic's leadership and to find a way out of the deadlock which has developed as a result of the strike. But this requires goodwill by all parties to the talks.

The previous day we visited some Tallinn enterprises, the United Council of Labor Collectives, and the republic strike committee. The strike was continuing. There were already about 50 enterprises and tens of thousands of people on strike.

An especially alarming situation has developed on the railroads—incoming trains have clogged up virtually all tracks. There are over 2,000 freight cars at a standstill on the tracks, waiting to be unloaded. Admittedly the strike committee has issued orders for containers with medicines to be dispatched without any hindrance, and for oxygen for medical institutions and acetylene for the repair of harvesting and agricultural equipment to be delivered.

Rigid order is being maintained at enterprises, and around-the-clock patrols of their territory by members of people's voluntary detachments and strike committee representatives have been organized.

It is well known that the reason for starting the strike was by the Law on the Election of Local Soviet People's Deputies adopted at the recent Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet session.

"The residence qualification for voters and candidate people's deputies," we were told this morning by A. Kopytin, member of the republic council of strike committees headquarters, "is a discriminatory measure against Estonia's Russian-speaking population, which runs contrary to both the USSR Constitution currently in force and the norms of international law. We cannot accept this in any way. Our strike committee is receiving telegrams expressing solidarity and money transfers to help the strikers. We also have great hopes that today's article in PRAVDA 'To Stop Negative Processes and Defend Perestroyka' will facilitate a self-critical appraisal of the situation by the republic leadership and by those who were involved in the elaboration of blatantly wrong and discriminatory provisions in the Law on Elections...."

Indeed, sobering words can be read now also in the pages of the Western press which, in this particular case, can hardly be suspected of being biased.

Against this background, the meeting between V. Vyalyas, first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee, and members of the strike committee at the Tallinn ship repair plant, which took place yesterday evening, must be seen as a responsible and principled decision. This difficult conversation, which was so badly needed in the present situation, lasted more than 2 hours. At least the sides clearly presented and defined their positions on the eve of the decisive talks. V. Vyalyas called for an end to the strike, which is causing enormous economic damage to the republic, immediately the talks begin. In the evening V. Vyalyas was interviewed by Estonian television and called on all sides involved in the conflict to display common sense, patience, and persistence in the quest for compromise.

In our view, the republic strike committee ought to take its full share of responsibility for the outcome of the talks. A genuine agreement can be reached only by meeting each other halfway.

Western Media Reports Cited

PM1508104789 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 15 Aug 89 p 3

[TASS report: "Estonia: View From the West"]

[Text] 14 Aug—What is happening in Estonia? How do the events developing there correspond to the practice of the Western countries and the experience of parliamentary democracy? Requests to answer these questions are now contained in many of the letters and telephone calls that TASS receives. They became particularly frequent after the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet adopted the law on elections to local soviets of people's deputies and the law on making changes and additions to the republic's constitution. Below are reports from TASS correspondents on the world reaction to the events in the Estonian SSR.

Stockholm—The leading Swedish newspaper DAGENS NYHETER published a second article by the well-known journalist Harry Schein analyzing moods in the Soviet Baltic republics. He writes in particular:

I have already recently written an article the immediate pretext for which was the anti-Russian and racist article published in SVENSKA DAGBLADET by Estonian Professor Tiyt Made. I have no need to polemicize with him—it was enough to quote what he had written.

But his article, like the tone of individual Estonian television reports which I have seen, prompted me to think about some of the alarming trends which have emerged in Estonia.

The article obviously touched a sore spot, H. Schein continues. The DAGENS NYHETER editorial office received many telephone calls and letters—mostly from angry Estonians. The majority were critical. To be fair it should be said that nearly all those who reacted to the article have dissociated themselves from Tiyt Made.

The editorial office of the Swedish radio program "Kanalen" wanted to organize a discussion in connection with H. Schein's article. But on the day it was to take place Made refused to take part in it...

You do not need any great imagination, the author notes, to envisage how Russia—even a democratic Russia—would react if Russian minorities were subjected to discrimination and if in an atmosphere of more or less openly expressed racist sentiments they were threatened with retribution for historical injustices. Russia is the largest and strongest republic in the Union. "Today maturity and prudence and an awareness of the fact that the Russian people were also the victims of Stalinism are needed," DAGENS NYHETER stresses.

"The Russians in Estonia who are citizens of the same country as the Estonians have had their rights encroached upon," is the opinion of another Swedish newspaper, NORRESKENSFLAMMAN, which comments on recent legislative acts of the Estonian SSR. As a result of these actions, it points out in an editorial article, "a large group of citizens of Russian nationality have been deprived in the Estonian republic of the possibility of taking part in electing representatives to local organs of power and of being elected to political posts."

The newspaper contrasts the decisions of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet with the present practice in this field in Sweden. Swedish legislation, it recalls, now gives even foreign citizens after 3 years' residence in the country the right to vote at municipal and provincial elections and the opportunity to be elected to the relevant institutions of power.

The strikes taking place in Estonia, the article notes, demonstrate the resolute condemnation of the new laws by the Russian-speaking population. "The conflict in Estonia," the newspaper believes, "can only be resolved through political talks which would guarantee the same attitude toward all groups of citizens."

Brussels—"The Estonian authorities are choosing extremely original paths toward democracy," is the assessment of the influential Belgian newspaper LE SOIR of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolution on ending the strikes and on the law on elections to local soviets recently adopted by the republic's parliament which introduces a settlement qualification.

Political maneuvers, the article says, cannot conceal the real problems of the national minorities in Estonia, whose representatives are gradually being turned into "second class" citizens in a republic which, as part of the Soviet Union, should grant equal rights to all citizens.

The Belgian press is attentively following the events in the Soviet Baltic states but none of the dozens of newspapers published here has yet expressed even in passing any approval for the recent legislative actions of the Estonian authorities. It is hard to expect the Belgians to understand the return to a practice which the country abandoned many decades ago. The introduction of restrictions on the right to vote is viewed here as a step backward in the development of parliamentary democracy.

In Belgium itself any qualifications for taking part in elections at all levels were repealed long ago, despite the fact that to this day the country has not resolved the very acute problem of the clash of interests between the two largest communities inhabiting it—the Walloons, who speak French, and the Flemish, who speak a Dutch dialect.

Belgium's example shows that attempts to restrict the right to vote run counter to the the marked Western trends to expand it. In recent years the country has widely debated the question of extending the right to vote to the only group which is still excluded from active political life—immigrants without Belgian citizenship, who comprise about 9 percent of the population. An increasing number of political and public organizations are insisting that they be granted the opportunity to take part in elections to local organs of power, stressing that it is unfair to refuse this right to people many of whom have been living in Belgium for many years.

Ottawa—"The Estonian parliament is complicating relations between Russians and Estonians," is the opinion of the OTTAWA CITIZEN newspaper commenting in an editorial article on the recently adopted law on the restriction of the right to vote.

This law, it writes, is aimed primarily "against Russian working people, who have already been isolated" from a whole series of production posts. But, the CITIZEN points out, this measure is only the most recent. "The republic's authorities," the editorial article stresses, "have made Estonian the only official language. Unless the working people of other nationalities employed in the trade network and institutions learn the Estonian language they will be dismissed.

Leadership Criticized on Strikes

PM1508172189 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 16 Aug 89 p 3

[SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA special correspondent M. Rostarchuk report: "Tallinn: Strike Continues"]

[Text] Tallinn—The weekend, unfortunately, did not calm the situation in Tallinn and Kokhtla-Yarve—the talks between the republic's leadership, which has been playing a waiting game, and the republic council of strike committees, which now has the full support of the united council of labor collectives, failed to take place.

The working week began with rallies at the enterprises which had stopped working. At Tallinn's largest plant—"Dvigatel"—the strike committee members have been coopted onto the labor collective council. As before, they are demanding that a representative commission come from Moscow and they state that they will not return to work until specific decisions are made.

On Monday there was a meeting in support of those striking at the giant Baltic state regional electric power station. Difficult talks obviously lie ahead at which the sides must demonstrate their desire to compromise—there is simply no other way.

On the weekend workers' security guards were organized at the striking enterprises. The Tallinn city freight station is being picketed by workers among whom are not only railroad workers but also plant representatives. Unaccustomed silence, and the tracks filled to overflowing with cars.... Arc welder A. Meshchenskiy, chairman of the strike committee, and his comrades said that they had no other option. As Russian-speaking workers they are simply being ignored!

A. Meshchenskiy sums up: We do not agree with the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic Law on Elections to Local Soviets and demand that it be revised; we demand the repeal of the Law on Language, which lacks both material and organizational backup; and we demand the official disbandment of the "Estonian citizens' committees." The organization of them is a direct attempt to eliminate Soviet power in the republic.

"Who made the decision to continue the strike?" I asked the workers.

"We conducted a poll. Out of over 200 people only a few were against it."

"Do you realize the gravity of the situation? The Baltic Railroad is being clogged up by freight trains. The Oktyabrskiy Railroad may also come to a halt."

"We are aware of that. But does the republic's leadership recognize this? We are not extremists, we are defending our political and civil rights."

You get the impression that either the local authorities and the republic's leadership are truly unaware of the political crisis, or the confrontation is deliberately being stepped up on the principle "the worse things are, the better."

Thus a statement by Yaak Saarniyt, secretary of the Tallinn city party committee, cannot fail to cause perplexity: "To a large extent we have to work out with whom we are dealing, where it is a strike, where a lockout, and where it is simply disorder—that is an active minority trying to get the upper hand at any price and force the others to strike." Come off it! If you leave the office and go round the striking enterprises, actually go out to people and talk to them honestly, then the doubts will clearly diminish.

'Reasonable Compromise' Urged

PM1508165589 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Aug 89 First Edition p 3

["Own Information" report: "Estonia: Invitation to Dialogue"]

[Text] Tallinn, 15 Aug—A tense situation persists in Estonia. According to figures from the republic council of strike committees, at 0900 local time there were 51 enterprises on strike. Yesterday's assessment of the situation on Estonian television by V. Vyalyas, first secretary of the republic Communist Party Central Committee, is being discussed in Russian-speaking labor collectives. He expressed a readiness to discuss workers' problems with them and to negotiate measures to implement the will of the minority.

"We are also prepared for dialogue," A. Kapytin, one of the strike leaders, said. "There are concrete confirmations of this. Yesterday, for example, at our invitation V. Vyalyas visited the Tallinn ship repair plant, where he met with representatives of the city's strike committees. These weren't negotiations, let me note, but a preliminary discussion of the situation that has developed. Why? As yet there has been no response to a single one of the Russian-speaking population's specific questions. It seems to us that the republic's leaders and most Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet deputies simply don't understand that they themselves have pushed people to the point where they made the decision to strike."

On 14 August the council received a telegram that a group of USSR Supreme Soviet members would be arriving in Tallinn today to examine the conflict. To an editorial office question as to whether the strike would be suspended when this commission starts work, A. Kapytin replied:

"We will ascertain what powers the group has, and then we'll decide."

A strike is a two-edged weapon. You can understand the republic's nonindigenous inhabitants. They are not guests in Estonia; this is their home. The introduction of the residence qualification by the Estonian SSR Law on Elections to local soviets denies electoral rights to many workers of non-Estonian nationality. The fight to get them back is one of the main objectives of the present strike.

But there is another obvious point. The nonworking enterprises and railroad freight stations are causing irreparable harm to the republic. So what is the solution? The conflict could go on forever unless a reasonable compromise is found right now. As yet, as we can see, the opposing sides are being slow to move toward an accommodation.

The editorial office is receiving constant calls about the events in Estonia. Some people are perplexed why criminal proceedings have been instituted against a number of strike leaders (this has been reported in some of the mass media). But, as has become clear, no rulings have been made on instituting criminal proceedings against the council of strike committees. There is no reason for such action. No unrest is being observed.

Estonian Election Law Impact on Army Pondered

PM1608104989 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Aug 89 First Edition p 4

[Captain 3d Rank V. Urban report: "Residence Qualification and Servicemen"]

[Text] This week the Estonian Supreme Soviet adopted the republican law "On Elections to Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Local Soviets of People's Deputies." An ETA-TASS report published by the central papers says that the new law provides that the republic's citizens who are 18 years old and who have lived for not less than the last 2 years on the territory of the soviet to be elected or for 5 years in the Estonian SSR have the right to vote. A candidate deputy has to have lived for the last 5 years on the territory of the soviet to be elected or for 10 years in the republic.

Ever since then our readers have been approaching the editorial office. It turns out that they are baffled that servicemen are virtually automatically deprived of their right to vote since most of them do not meet the residence qualification. The editorial office approached the Estonian SSR permanent mission in Moscow for explanations. Elmar Maat, permanent representative and republican Supreme Soviet deputy, answered:

The ETA-TASS report contains incomplete information. The law as adopted contains a special article entitled "Participation in Elections by Servicemen Living on the Territory of Military Units."

The article is quite long, so we shall only note the essence of it. Servicemen and members of their families living on the territory of military units can elect one people's deputy to the soviet of the rayon or city under republican jurisdiction on whose territory they live. Electoral okrugs are formed in military units if there is a sufficient number of voters. This article does not envisage any limitations regarding the residence period.

So it is possible to have their own soldier or sailor deputy. But, evidently, some points nonetheless need to be clarified. For example, what about officers, ensigns, and warrant officers who live outside the garrison but do not "satisfy" the prescribed qualifications?

In short, there are questions. And I think they should be clarified. The elections to Estonia's local soviets are planned for 10 December. During the election campaign it will be more difficult to settle the disputes. As is known, enterprises and organizations where mainly Russian speakers work went on strike because they disagree with a number of provisions of the Law on Elections. Any differences of opinion can be solved more productively through dialogue. This also fully applies to the problems of servicemen's participation in political life.

Background of Estonian Election Law Viewed

PM2607184189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by own correspondent L. Levitskiy under the "Union Republic Supreme Soviet Sessions" rubric: "Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic"]

[Text] The 12th Session of the Estonian Supreme Soviet, 11th convocation, interrupted its work on Monday. The unusual situation stemmed partly from the demands of participants in rallies of labor collectives of Tallinn, Kokhtla-Yarve, and Sillamyae (IZVESTIYA wrote about one of them in its Sunday issue). A group of deputies called for the draft Law on Elections to Local Soviets submitted for discussion to be withdrawn on the grounds that, in their opinion, it infringes on the nonindigenous population's rights, and they called for it to be thoroughly reworked in conjunction with representatives of labor collectives. The proposal was voted down by 181 to 58.

A compromise proposed by V. Vyalyas, first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee, enabled the session to continue its work. There is quite a lot that is new and unusual in the draft submitted for discussion. I will not recount it all. The debate revealed that deputies had different interpretations and attitudes toward the proposed innovations. Deputies S. Makarova and N. Zakharov considered a number of the draft's provisions, particularly the introduction of a residence qualification, to be undemocratic and an infringement on the rights of citizens and labor collectives.

"Under the draft I can be elected deputy of any soviet, as I have lived in Estonia more than 10 years, but do not myself have the right to vote because I moved to Kokhtla-Yarve less than 2 years ago. Where is the logic in that?" N. Zakharov, first secretary of the Kokhtla-Yarve party city committee, asked.

He was supported by Deputy Yu. Tolmachev. The residential qualification and other proposed innovations were firmly defended by R. Virkus, rector of Tallinn University, E. Kallas, chairman of a collective farm, N. Mikheyeva, first secretary of the Kokhtla-Yarveskiy party rayon committee, and T. Kyabin, USSR people's deputy. The basic argument was that the voter, and even more so the person running for election, should be people with a good knowledge of local conditions. The following comparison was made: Everyone has the right to higher education, but an institute does not accept people who are inadequately qualified. Officer Ye. Malakhov, who is not a deputy but had been invited to the session, asked to speak. In his opinion, to deprive servicemen of the right to vote is to separate the army from the people. The debate ended at this point. Deputies will make their final decision later.

This compromise made it possible to alleviate the situation and calmly continue the discussion of other issues. That is how events developed in the Supreme Soviet Hall of Sessions. But the collectives of a number of enterprises thought the compromise inadequate. The republic council of strike committees called for a strike to be held from 25 July. Why?

"The Supreme Soviet has not taken account of our opinion" is how V. Shurygin, an engineer at the "Elektrotekhnika" association, explained the reasons. "They simply do not want to consider our interests, the interests of the national minority."

The compromise that emerged at the session has not defused the tension in the republic. Sensible, timely measures are required from the republic's government and party organs.

Estonian Supreme Soviet Marks SSR Anniversary

PM1508074989 Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 22 Jul 89 p 1

[ETA report: "History Cannot Be Revoked"]

[Excerpts] A ceremonial meeting organized by the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers and the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee in honor of the Estonian SSR's 49th anniversary was held at the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee House of Political Education on 21 July.

The meeting was opened by E.A. Sillari, chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet. M. Titma, secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee, delivered the report. [passage omitted]

M. Titma said that the majority of Estonia's inhabitants are tired of political slogans and await real changes. If the republic's progressive forces are unable to consolidate themselves in the very near future on the basis of real reforms, there will be a danger that increasingly radical extremes will prevail. Under these conditions the Estonian Communist Party will propose a program in the very near future and will call on the entire population of Estonia to discuss its theses. The Estonian Communist Party program is a program of creating preconditions for extricating society from the crisis and a program of humane socialism. The speaker emphasized that the ultimate goal of the Estonian Communist Party's activity is to restore Estonia's sovereignty on the basis of the Estonian people's right to self-determination, and, at the same time, the personal and social protection of no inhabitants of Estonia must be weakened. The deepening of perestroyka and the turning of the Soviet Union into a democratic rule-of-law state are the guarantee that the Estonian people's vital interests will be ensured. [passage omitted]

Earthquake Reported in Armenia; No Casualties

LD1608090689 Moscow TASS in English 0902 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Yerevan August 16 TASS—An earthquake registered five points in the epicentre was recorded by seismic stations in Soviet Armenia at 5:18 (local time) on Wednesday morning. The quake's centre was situated 23 kilometres to the south-east of Yerevan.

No casualties or destructions have been reported.

Attack on Rail Line in Nagorno-Karabakh Reported

NC1608081089 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 0200 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Tension persists in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO]. A recent TASS report reflects the level of tension in the NKAO which nowadays is under a blockade. This blockade is one of the many examples of illegal activities. On the night of 12-13 August, a train track between Akhtam and Stepanakert was damaged when unidentified persons detonated an explosive device. As a result, 15 railcars carrying foodstuffs, construction materials, and [word indistinct] could not arrive in the oblast on schedule. Almost 20 railcars loaded with various freight were also not dispatched to consumers in the oblast's capital. A Baku-Stepanakert passanger train was stranded in Akhtam station for a long time. The track was repaired the same day. Criminal proceedings have been instituted in connection with the incident. The commandant of the special adminstration is taking measures to prevent a repetition of such acts.

Concerning the dispute about the NKAO, the Azerbaijan mass media is calling, as usual, on the Armenian side to respect the basic laws of the country. However, on what article of the Soviet Constitution or what decree of the presidium of the country's Supreme Soviet is a blockade imposed on the roads leading to the NKAO, which is already under special administration? How can such actions, which are in direct contravention of socialist society, be reconciled with the expressed desire to ameliorate the NKAO situation and establish mutual understanding between the Armenian and Azerbaijani sides? What human values form the basis for the artificial isolation of the NKAO Armenians from another union republic where their compatriots live and which suffered the natural disaster that jolted the whole world? For the people of Karabakh, it is difficult to (?conceive of any such justification).

Deputy Says Situation in Baku 'Very Worrying'

AU1508124289 Paris AFP in English 1210 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow, Aug 15 (AFP)—Authorities have lost control in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan, where continuing ethnic tension has led to street attacks on Armenians, according to a deputy from neighboring Armenia.

Galina Staravoitova said she had reports of Armenians being attacked and beaten in the streets of Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan whose population is mainly Moslem, though there were no details on the number of victims.

Calling the mood "very worrying," she said it was clear that "authorities no longer control the situation" since the numerous soldiers mobilized in the area were unable to prevent rallies, banned under the current curfew, and strikes.

A huge nationalist rally was held in Baku on Monday to demand an end to the "special administration committee" formed at the start of the year to give Moscow direct control over Nagorny Karabakh, a mainly Christian Armenian autonomous enclave within Azerbaijan.

The ethnic tension has focused on residents' demands for reattachment to Armenia.

The rally, called by Azerbaijan's Popular Front movement, decided to call off a general strike until Saturday after Communist Party officials at the rally proposed talks with the Front.

Mrs. Starvoitova, who is a member of the Supreme Soviet commission on the Nagorny Karabakh question, said the situation in the enclave "was relatively calm," and said a report by the Soviet news agency TASS that the region was "practically in a state of siege" was not clear.

She said TASS statements that an "unconstitutional attempt" to create an alternative power structure in the enclave probably referred to the decision by the Armenians there to "elect their own power organs."

Though she did not specify the date of the election, she said the "self-governing" body was named to replace the special administration committee set up by Moscow which "did not please the population."

She said some clashes were still taking place at Shusha, a mainly Azeri town near the border with Armenia.

Residents contacted by phone in nearby Stepanakert, Nagorny Karabakh's biggest city, said roads into the area had been blocked at the border by authorities.

They also said there was still no bus or train services in the region, which has been hit by strikes for the last four months, but that planes were running normally.

An Interior Ministry spokesman, Vladimir Prokopienko, meanwhile, said most of the incidents between Azeris and Armenians involved throwing stones or blocking trains.

He criticized talks of imminent "pogroms" as only rumors designed to increase tension.

Situation in Azerbaijan, Abkhaziya 'Tense'

LD1508170289 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1622 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow, 15 Aug (TASS)—Aleksandr Borisov, TASS correspondent, reports: According to the data of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs, the situation in Azerbaijan remained complex in the last 24 hours. Strikes in which 5,000 people participated took place at seven enterprises of Baku, the capital of the republic. An unauthorized meeting, attended by around 50,000 people, took place with the active participation of leaders of the "Popular Front" of Azerbaijan, at the city's central square. The speakers demanded official recognition of the "Popular Front," abolition of the special form of administration in NKAO [Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast], abolition of curfews, and so on. There were no violations of public order.

Following a meeting in the Azerbaijani town of Mingechaur, dedicated to the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh, a group of young people caused disturbances. Public order has been re-instated.

The situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast remains tense, too.

The situation in Abkhaziy is under control. 123 people were detained over the last 24 hours of violating the special regime [osobyy rezhim] of civilian behavior. The search for the persons who escaped from the detention center in the town of Zugdid continues. As of 15 August, 131 escaped criminals have been captured, and the search for another 49, 5 of whom were sentenced to death, is under way.

Confiscation of Weapons Continues in Abkhaziya

LD1608082989 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Despite measures which are being taken Abkhaziya remains tense. One of the main factors promoting this situation is the large number of weapons, munitions, and explosives in the hands of the population. This is leading to tragic results. A 14-year-old boy was injured on 15 August in the village of (Beslet) in Sukhumskiy Rayon when an unidentified object found in the river exploded. He was taken to the hospital. An investigation is under way. This is by no means the first time that children have been the prime sufferers as a result of unidentified objects exploding.

Let us add that in the past 24 hours 31 firearms have been confiscated from the population. On the night of 15-16 August, 223 people were detained for public order violations.

The situation in Abkhaziya is being monitored by party, local Soviet, and law enforcement bodies.

Abkazians View TV Roundtable, Smyslov Interview

LD1508183789 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] The temporary press center of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Abkhaziya reports:

The roundtable meeting shown by Abkhaz television evoked a wide response among the inhabitants of the autonomous republic. Its participants discussed issues connected with normalizing the situation in the republic. At issue was progress in the investigation of crimes committed in July. It was stressed that all instigators and active participants in the disorders will be prosecuted according to the law. The population's special attention was drawn to the importance of handing over firearms to the internal affairs bodies voluntarily.

This morning, there were many people around newspaper stands in Sukhumi and in other cities and rayon centers of the republic. The interview with Lieutenant General Smyslov, first deputy chief of the Internal Troops of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs, which was published in the SOVETSKAYA ABKHAZIYA, was met with great interest. He spoke about the measures being adopted to stabilize the situation. The interview notes, in particular, that order can be established in Abkhaziya only through the joint efforts of all citizens in the autonomous republic and through reinstating trust in each other.

Lukyanov Interviewed on Supreme Soviet Session

Part 1

LD1408211189 Moscow International Service in Polish 1300 GMT 14 Aug 89

["First part" of interview with Anatoliy Lukyanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, to Moscow Radio correspondents Aleksandr Plevakho and Vyacheslav Terekhov in Lukyanov's Kremlin office, date not given—with recorded portion]

[Text] [Announcer] After the end of the USSR Supreme Soviet session, Anatoliy Lukyanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, gave an interview to Moscow Radio correspondents Aleksandr Plevakho and Vyacheslav Terekhov. In the interview Anatoliy Lukyanov discussed the relationship between political and economic reform in the Soviet Union, expressed his view on whether the congress and the Supreme Soviet are divided into conservatives and radicals, and spoke about pressures applied to the CPSU Politburo to call the congress to order and organize its proceedings in the old manner. He also expressed his point of view about the road of development of the Soviet federation and explained why he was against a confederation. He also spoke about his collaboration with Mikhail Gorbachev and about his family.

This is the first part of the interview. Its subject are the complex processes taking part in Soviet society.

[Unidentified correspondent] Anatoliy Lukyanov received us in his office in the Kremlin. In many respects the questions we asked him were suggested by the numerous letters received by us and by Moscow Radio in connection with such important events in the life of our society as the Congress of People's Deputies and the first session of the new Soviet legislature. I shall add that annually Moscow Radio receives a total of some 200,000 letters from 160 countries and territories.

The first question we asked was: The frank, honest and maximally open dialogue between people's deputies at the congress and at the just concluded session of the Soviet Union's Supreme Soviet on the state of the Soviet economy and Soviet society has shattered the myth about communism consistent with the view of some foreign experts. What would you say about this statement?

[Begin Lukyanov recording in Russian fading into Polish translation] I think that the criticism and self-criticism of events taking place in our country demonstrates the strength rather than the weakness of this society; it is a symptom of strength rather than weakness of representative institutions which we have formed in the process of political reform in our country. A highly complex process is taking place in society. No one is trying to disguise the troubles or embellish the difficulties with which society has to deal, equally in the social aspect and in respect of international relations, as well as in the aspect of simply rebuilding people's awareness. But we think, and we are convinced of it, that these complex processes serve the cause of strengthening socialism rather than weakening it and contribute to providing socialism with a new quality. In the course of this all of socialism's possibilities are extending and becoming more apparent, its creative potential, the humanitarian potential of socialism, is appearing to (?an ever greater extent). This is undoubtedly connected with extensive economic changes in society because no democratization of society is possible without development of the economy. On the other hand it is related to the processes of democratization of society which makes it possible to unveil the creative possibilities of public organizations, representative bodies, and citizens themselves. This development of democracy is also affecting economic development.

So the two reforms, political and economic, are proceeding in step. Perhaps political reform is even running somewhat ahead of economic reform. In principle that's not a bad thing. Our attitude to this process is calm. I have to say that in spite of the difficulties and sometimes dramatic clashes they are an inevitable phenomenon in every revolutionary process, in the process of development which restructuring is. This process of improving socialism is vital for us. We are also convinced that it is going to proceed in the right direction, facilitating for us the attainment of our objectives, the invariable objectives which the Soviet people have set themselves during the 70 years of its existence. [end recording]

Part 2

LD1508212989 Moscow International Service in Polish 1300 GMT 15 Aug 89

["Second part" of interview with Anatoliy Lukyanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, to Moscow Radio correspondents Aleksandr Plevako and Vyacheslav Terekhov in Lukyanov's Kremlin office, date not given—Lukyanov remarks recorded in Russian with superimposed Polish translation]

[Text] [Announcer] Today we broadcast the second part of the interview by Moscow Radio correspondents

Aleksandr Plevako and Vyacheslav Terekhov with Anatoliy Lukyanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

We asked such a fundamental question as the division at the congress into a conservative majority and a progressive minority, whether he agrees with such a division, and what his attitude is toward sometimes diametrically opposed points of view expressed equally at the congress and at the Supreme Soviet session.

[Lukyanov] It is worth emphasizing that there was not a single speaker either from among the so-called conservatives or the so-called radicals who would not call himself progressive. That is point one. Second, I am categorically opposed to the devision of the congress and the Supreme Soviet into a radically progressive minority and a conservative majority. The point is that the radical trends were no less and perhaps even more aggressive. That is why we should take a close look at what kind of radicalism it is, where the left comes together with the right. The congress and the Supreme Soviet are like our society.

Admittedly there had been advisers who suggested that we should reestablish order at the congress, eleminate all turmoil, and put everything back on the old track of tranquility. The Politburo refused that. The congress in effect is a reflection, a group portrait of the Soviet Union. In it for the most part there exist conservative elements and very often it is, I would say, ignorant conservatism because their entire life was tied up with a certain period, and that is why we cannot condemn them. We should not regard every veteran who survived the war as a conservative. Anyway conservatism does not depend on age. Often elderly people are much more progressive than young activists who think merely of their private interests.

Obviously both at the congress and in the Supreme Soviet there are also young people. Their presence is vital. Also at the congress there were people with anti-party and anti-Soviet feelings. There are people like that, too. There was also no shortage of people with social-democratic ideals among the deputies. The sudden wave of national awareness has also given rise to certain strata with nationalist feelings. There is no point in concealing this; all these things exist. As is the society so are the congress and the Supreme Soviet. This has to be taken into consideration. We have to know how to treat that kind of society, engage in dialogue with it, understand its essence. We cannot act in any other way.

Consequently I think we should approach this calmly and not divide the deputies into conservatives and radicals. I altogether fail to understand what radical left bodies are. There is a concept of a radical right, but a radical left? I used to have a close friend, a poet. Unfortunately he is no longer alive. When someone asked him what art he preferred, left art or right art, he replied, I am in favor of left art, as long as it is no further to the left than the heart. We should not be inventing a left or a right and organizing divisions into some factions during a period when society needs not a split but consolidation—consolidation around the restructuring, consolidation around the soviets, consolidation around the party. There is simply no other way of doing the hard work that lies ahead of us in especially difficult and complex conditions.

[Announcer] The listeners who are familiar with Mikhail Gorbachev's interview for Moscow Radio, as well as with your interview, will unmistakably conclude that both you and he are historical optimists certain of the victory of the just cause of restructuring irrespective of how difficult that would be.

[Lukyanov] With a certain caveat: We are well-informed optimists and that makes it really difficult.

[Announcer] What were the greatest difficulties in managing the work of the congress and the Supreme Soviet? That must have been hard work.

[Lukyanov] Overcoming my own passions and preventing others' passions from going beyond the limits of common sense, because there were moments when I very much wanted to shut someone's mouth or correct someone, but that is not something one can do. I had to learn well on the basis of [words indistinct] to evolve a policy.

[Announcer] Did you have to struggle against yourself?

[Lukyanov] Marx used to say that the world's most impregnable fortress is the human head.

[Announcer] Anyway, as a politician you have presumably gotten a great deal from this year's congress and Supreme Soviet, in spite of the great tension, tiredness, and difficulties.

[Lukyanov] I think Mikhail Gorbachev mentioned in his interview that during those days we had probably lived through several lifetimes. That is true. Although I treat with great caution the assertion that I am a politician. That is right, in that respect I look at myself with caution and a dose of modesty. The art of political activity has to be mastered. Perhaps I will have to use up the rest of my living days for that.

Economic Autonomy of Union Republics Viewed

LD1608081789 Moscow TASS in English 0745 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 16 TASS—The draft general principles of restructuring economic and social management in the union republics, published in the Soviet Union for a nationwide discussion, do not remove excessive centralization which gives rise to disputes between the centre and the republics, doctor of law Vladimir Andreyev writes in the latest issue of KOMMUNIST, journal of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee.

The author says that scientists, above all those specializing in economics, are not yet ready to offer theoretically substantiated solutions to numerous questions relating to strengthening republics' economic autonomy. That is why, Andreyev believes, discussions of the problem in some republics are imbued with spontaneous pronouncements and steeped in nationalist emotions.

The article cites the example of Estonia whose Supreme Soviet declared all means of production on the republic's territory exclusive property of the Estonian Republic. This implies in fact, the scholar notes, a withdrawal of the Estonian economy from the single economic complex of the Soviet Union. And this is only one of many examples of substituting election campaign verbiage for universally recognised scientific concepts. Thus, the notion of "a republics's indigenous population" is replaced by the notion of "republic" and "a republic's right to manage the property" is taken for its "ownership of the property", etc.

According to Andreyev, to embark on the second phase of restructuring the political system—harmonization of inter-ethnic relations—it is necessary, above all, to clearly determine, on a scientific basis, the division of powers between the union and the union republics. Guidance should be taken in doing this from the recognised principle of "all that is not banned by law is permitted". In other words, a clear-cut constitutional provision concerning the limits of power vested in the USSR Supreme Soviet is needed. The Supreme Soviets of the union republics are then entitled to pass any laws beyond these limits.

The author lists a range of other problems connected with the introduction of the republics' economic autonomy requiring consideration. These refer, in part, to the content of plans drawn up centrally and in the republics and the very fact of the existence of central ministries. The structure of the government, Andreyev thinks, should be brought into line with the new understanding of the state as the economic centre. Retaining 32 union ministries is incompatible with the actual expansion of rights of the union republics, the author concludes.

Interregional Group Meeting Highlighted

PM1508153489 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 32, 6 Aug 89 p 10

[Andrey Romanov and Vladimir Shevelev report: "The Minority Closes Rank"]

[Text] On July 29-30 the Moscow Cinema House became the venue for a meeting held by the interregional group of the USSR people's deputies.

The intention to set up such a group was already announced at the congress of People's Deputies. Its backbone was made up of deputies from Moscow and Leningrad, who were also joined by representatives from other regions.

This was the group's first general meeting after the congress. All other people's deputies of the USSR willing to attend were also invited. Towards the close of the meeting, its chairman, Gavriil Popov, announced that a total of 393 deputies had arrived at the meeting, and 260 of them had received voting papers, meaning that the 260 accepted the platform of the interregional group. The others evidently were there to observe the progress of discussion and meditate.

The sponsors of the group see its aim in giving vent and protection to the interests of the "left-radical" (Boris Yeltsin's idiom) minority at the congress and Supreme Soviet session. The group's members are going to draft—and submit to the Supreme Soviet on its behalf—alternative proposals on questions being discussed, and draw up alternative legislation. They see their organization as the guarantee that their point of view will be reckoned with by the majority, and the group will always be able to set forth its positions.

The organizers of the meeting obviously had a clearer idea of what had to be done and how, than the other participants. They had carried out considerable preparatory work, for instance: They drew up the draft platform of the group and its provisional procedures, they opened an account for the funding of deputies' initiatives (No 2700096 at the Moscow Regional Department of the USSR's Zhilsotsbank), and printed voting papers. Lastly, they produced a special issue of the newspaper NARODNYY DEPUTAT (People's Deputy) under the auspices of the local newspaper of the Kurchatov Atomic Energy Institute, since the group has not yet obtained permission to have its own newspaper.

On the other hand, the statements of many participants in the meeting indicate that there is still a long way to go to full unanimity in respect to the group's character and objectives.

One opinion was most explicitly expressed by Academician Oleg Bogomolov: There is a need to have alternative points of view, there is a need for dissent. There must be organizational forms making it possible to stand up for these differing points of view.

The attitude of another group of deputies can be conveyed in the words of Yevgeniy Primakov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet, who addressed the meeting: A forum or club for the discussion of alternative laws and proposals is necessary. But is it necessary to set up a closed club as an antithesis to the Supreme Soviet? Let us conduct professional work in its commissions.

An express questionnaire was staged at the meeting among its participants: 55.4 per cent favoured the interregional group having a clearly delineated membership, an internal structure, a common platform and, in its framework, the right to stand up for one's views; 41.7 per cent preferred the idea of the group being an open discussion club.

During the two days, it became possible to discuss and adopt the drafts of several specific legislative proposals, which it was decided to submit to the Supreme Soviet on behalf of the group. For instance, on putting a limit on state orders, on the abolition of state quality tests, and on governmental departments' economic responsibility for making managerial decisions. The participants in the meeting decided to launch a petition among people's deputies on a proposal to convene the congress on September 18-19 to discuss amendments to the constitution which would guarantee that the laws on republican and local elections being drafted in union republics, would not copy the defects of the all-union law on elections.

The meeting elected a coordinating committee of 25 deputies as the group's leading body. It was also decided to have five co-chairmen. Chosen to these posts were Boris Yeltsin, Yuriy Afanasyev, Gavriil Popov, Viktor Palm and Andrey Sakharov. All five will enjoy equal rights (in the beginning it was suggested that special powers should be delegated for one year to one of the co-chairmen, for the first year—to Boris Yeltsin; later, however, this idea was dropped).

What rights does the parliamentary minority have and in what way can they really be guaranteed? How will it be possible to dovetail the inter-regional group's legislative efforts with the work of the commissions, committees and the Supreme Soviet as a whole? This is also a far from simple problem. Much is not yet clear.

On July 31, at the evening sitting of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Boris Yeltsin made an official announcement about the meeting held by the group.

Text of 8th Komsomol Plenum Resolutions Published

18001466 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 3 Aug 89 p 2

[Text of resolutions passed at the 8th Komsomol Central Committee Plenum]

[Text]

Resolution of the 8th Komsomol Central Committee Plenum: "On the Position of the Komsomol at This Point in Time"

1. The All-Union Leninist Communist Youth League [Komsomol] Central Committee notes that today our league is going through a crisis. It has been born out of the objective conditions prevailing at the present stage in the development both of society in general and of the Komsomol itself. The course set at the 20th Komsomol Congress made it possible to expand democracy within the league and the independence of the Komsomol organizations. However, the changes that are taking place are obviously running behind the rates of social transformations and the expectations and needs of Komsomol members. The prestige and influence of the Komsomol among young people are declining, there is growing mistrust of Komsomol organs, the number of young people wanting to leave the league is increasing, and the inflow of fresh forces is declining. A considerable number of Komsomol members are in the league on a pro forma basis and do not take part in the activity of their own organizations.

The position is being made worse because of the lack of clearly formulated goals and priorities for the Komsomol and the passion for internal league issues to the detriment of general political, socioeconomic, and cultural tasks. Rigid centralism and the ossified nature of structures, and the imperfections in the system whereby leading organs are formed are leading to loss of the Komsomol organizations' ability to participate in the dynamically changing lives of the labor and training collectives, or to defend the interests of their own members.

The Komsomol Central Committee Bureau and Secretariat are behind the times in predicting events and marking out a clear-cut line of action, and some of their decisions are of a disparate nature and fail to reflect the state of affairs at the local level.

The lack of any integrated state youth policy, the deepening contradictions between young people's growing demands and the opportunities available to realize them, the actual alienation of young men and women from the means of production and the management of state and public affairs, and the distortions of Leninist principles of party leadership by the Komsomol are giving rise to indifference, apoliticality, and passivity among many member of the Komsomol.

2. The Komsomol Central Committee regards the rallying of Komsomol organizations on the platform of perestroyka and the democratization of internal life within the league as a most important reserve for the renewal of the Komsomol and the activation of its activity as a political force in society.

It is essential to set goals and tasks, the content of activity, and the organizational structure of the Komsomol in line with the actual political and economic situation in the country and the situation within the youth movement, and to ensure real independence for the primary Komsomol organizations.

The Komsomol Central Committee favors the development of a Komsomol program and new rules based on Marxist-Leninist ideology, ideological unity, and the organizational independence of the Leninist communist youth leagues in all the union republics. The Komsomol supports in every possible way the all-union pioneer organization and will do everything required to renew the communist movement for children.

3. The Komsomol recognizes the political leadership of the party and at the same time favors full organizational independence for its own league, excluding diktat and command from the party organs and their interference in the internal affairs of the Komsomol. Those present at the plenum propose to the CPSU Central Committee

that a joint plenum be held on problems of the youth movement in the country and the role and place of the Komsomol in society.

We decisively and firmly support the CPSU as the political vanguard of society and its course toward revolutionary renewal, and the desire for self-cleansing and the democratization of internal party life. We are on the side of those party forces that are fighting against dogmatic, conservative attitudes and for elimination of the lagging behind processes that are developing in society. Members of the Komsomol central elected organs favor renewal of the party program and rules and an early convening of the 28th CPSU Congress.

4. The Komsomol can no longer be satisfied with the role of an extra and the obedient executor of directives. It must march in the front ranks of those fighting for a civilized and democratic socialist society.

The Komsomol Central Committee favors the extensive recruitment of politically active young people in the management of state and public affairs. Our place is in the struggle to assert the real power of the soviets of people's deputies. We see as one essential condition of true popular power the acceleration of perestroyka, rejection of the command-administrative system, and the resolution of urgent problems in Soviet society and among youth.

Our place is in the struggle to assert cost accounting, socialist entrepreneurship, and different forms of ownership. Our place is in the struggle for social justice and against the shadow economy and corruption.

We support the just demands of the miners put forward during the recent strikes. The Komsomol Central Committee favors the adoption of measures as quickly as possible to eliminate the causes giving rise to them, and to strengthen guarantees and protect the working man against bureaucracy and arbitrary rule, and it calls for problems to be resolved on the basis of legality, constructive dialogue, and the adoption of responsible decisions.

5. Expressing serious concern regarding the state of interethnic relations in the country, the Komsomol Central Committee considers impermissible any manifestations of national egoism, attempts to denigrate the dignity of people of a different nationality, and extremism and coercion. In the opinion of the Komsomol Central Committee, the exacerbation of interethnic relations, which has had tragic consequences, and of an atmosphere of fear and in some regions direct confrontation between the representatives of different nationalities play into the hands of antisocialist, corrupt forces that are trying to toy with the fates of peoples and nations. Their criminal activity is a blow against perestroyka and this means against the future of young people.

The Komsomol Central Committee states its adherence to internationalist ideals. It advocates the normalization of interethnic relations and the resolution of problems that have been building up for decades on the basis of Leninist national policy, free from the deformations and distortions of Stalinism, along the path of perfecting Soviet federalism and the creation of a rule-of-law state.

The younger generation carries a special responsibility for creating in the country, our common home, an atmosphere of good-neighborliness, mutual respect, tolerance, equal cooperation among all peoples of the USSR, and conditions for the free development of national cultures and traditions.

6. The Komsomol Central Committee emphasizes the special role of the mass media dealing with youth affairs in the restructuring of our league, insuring glasnost in the Komsomol, and shaping the world outlook and moral conscience of young men and women.

However, within the Komsomol press and in the broadcasts on youth affairs on television we sense a shortage of information about the progressive transformations taking place in society and in the Komsomol, and there is not always in-depth analysis of objective difficulties in the work of Komsomol organizations.

Ways to raise the effectiveness of the youth mass media facilities include the democratization of relations between Komsomol committees and the editorial offices, improvements in the structure and thematic thrust of publications, finding resolutions as quickly as possible for the material and social and everyday problems of journalists, extending and modernizing the material-technical base of Komsomol printing enterprises, and giving Komsomol committees at all levels the right of publication activity, including the primary organizations and the councils of the pioneer organizations.

The Komsomol Central Committee believes that the relations between the mass media and public and political structures should be built on a legal foundation, and it advocates that this be submitted as quickly as possible for debate and the adoption of the law on the press.

7. The Komsomol Central Committee favors the unification of all youth on the platform of perestroyka. The Komsomol does not lay claim to a monopoly in expressing the interests of the country's young people.

The inalienable right of young people to join together in other youth organizations makes it possible to expand the youth movement in support of perestroyka. The Komsomol advocates the reorganization of the USSR Committee on Youth Organizations and the convening of a representative youth forum for the country designed to help in shaping the structure of cooperation between youth associations, organizations, and movements.

*****

The Komsomol Central Committee expresses the hope that members of the Komsomol will become actively involved in the common work to solve the problems that have built up in our league. Change in the situation in the Komsomol and the elimination of crisis phenomena will depend on the activeness and interest of each Komsomol member and the combativeness of each primary organization.

The voting: 182 members of the Komsomol Central Committee in favor, none against, 1 abstention.

*****

Resolution of the 8th Komsomol Central Committee Plenum. "On Work on the Komsomol Program."

The 8th Komsomol Central Committee Plenum notes that today the Komsomol as a sociopolitical youth organization under conditions of the complex social, economic, political, and spiritual processes taking place in our society and in the youth medium, should during the course of the implementation of revolutionary perestroyka define its position clearly and state its goals and what it should fight against and what it should advocate.

The need for the Komsomol to play an active role in society as a conscious force and the spokesman for the interests of the broad strata of youth and its decisive renewal, require a definition of the prospects for its activity and of the political platform on which it would cooperate with party, state, and public organizations, and also other youth organizations.

The Komsomol has never concealed its intentions, ideals, and sympathies. Recognizing glasnost as one of the cornerstone principles of its activity, our league has recognized that it can no longer get by without a clear and open program document.

The 8th Komsomol Central Committee Plenum resolves as follows:

1. To initiative work on a Komsomol program in order to submit it for consideration at the 21st Komsomol Congress. To confirm the makeup of a commission to work on the Komsomol program.

2. To take as a basis the proposal of the Komsomol Central Committee subcommittee "On a Concept for a Komsomol Program."

3. Giving due consideration to the future model for the development of the Komsomol and the concepts of the Komsomol program worked out by the republic, regional, and other programs, the commission will draw up a draft Komsomol program and submit it to the Komsomol Central Committee.

4. The draft Komsomol program will be considered at a plenum of the Komsomol Central Committee after which it will be submitted for debate in the country's Komsomol organizations.

The voting: 182 members of the Komsomol Central Committee in favor, none against, no abstentions.

*****

Resolution of the 8th Komsomol Central Committee Plenum. "On Work on Draft Komsomol Rules"

Giving due consideration to the need for profound changes in the structure of the Komsomol and renewal of the norms of internal activity within the league in accordance with the actual processes taking place in society, the Komsomol Central Committee resolves as follows:

1. To deem it necessary to draw up the draft of new Komsomol rules. To confirm the makeup of a commission to work on the Komsomol rules.

2. In work on the draft rules to proceed from the following highly important principles:

—As a voluntary, independent, sociopolitical organization, the Komsomol should help the young person in his ideological, moral, and creative development; join young people together for involvement in creating a society of true freedom and democracy that guarantees for its citizens conditions for self-determination and self-realization and the free self-organization of collectives;

—having its rules based on Marxist-Leninist methodology and analysis of development in society, the Komsomol will carry on its activity on the basis of the same ideological platform as the CPSU while independently defining the directions and forms of its work;

—The Komsomol will retain its own responsibility and concern for the further development of the Komsomol as a voluntary, independent communist organization for children and teenagers of the Soviet Union;

—giving due consideration to the processes taking place within the Komsomol, to work out with care the basic principles of the organizational structure of the Komsomol and its leadership, bearing in mind the democratization of the norms of the interrelationship between the minority and the majority, the obligatory nature of compliance with decisions, the interrelationship between organizations and elected organs, and the development of Komsomol organizations;

—to define and delineate the competence of the center and the localities, extend the independence of the Komsomols of the union republics down to giving them the opportunity to have their own rules and program and to create their own normative base;

—to retain unified norms and principles in the Komsomol, making provision for withdrawal of membership in the Komsomol at the wish of the Komsomol member;

—to make provision for the possibility of convening extraordinary congresses of the Komsomol, extend the powers of the all-union Komsomol conference, and define the status and rights of the all-union Komsomol referendum;

—to include a special section in the Komsomol rules on the Komsomol press and its status and relationship with the elected organs.

3. To publish as preliminary material in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA the theses of the different versions drawn up for the Komsomol rules and in this connection ask members of the Komsomol to offer their proposals to the commission drawing up the draft rules.

Giving due consideration to the discussion at the plenum of proposals submitted by members of the Komsomol and young people and also the draft changes to the model rules drawn up by the working groups, to assign the commission to prepare proposals on the new Komsomol rules.

To consider them at the next plenum of the Komsomol Central Committee and submit them for discussion in the country's Komsomol organizations.

The voting: 175 members of the Komsomol Central Committee in favor, none against, 3 abstentions.

*****

Resolution of the 8th Komsomol Central Committee Plenum. "On Perestroyka in Control in the Komsomol"

There is basic agreement on the concept of perestroyka in control in the Komsomol. Giving due consideration to the comments and proposals expressed, the Komsomol Central Committee Bureau and Komsomol Central Auditing Commission Bureau shall draw up a draft concept and submit it for discussion in the country's Komsomol organizations. Giving due consideration to the discussion in the Komsomol organizations, a draft concept will be prepared on perestroyka in control for consideration at the 21st Komsomol Congress.

The voting: 205 members of the Komsomol Central Committee and Central Auditing Commission in favor, 4 against, 3 abstentions.

*****

Resolution of the 8th Komsomol Central Committee Plenum. "On Proposals From a Number of Komsomol Organizations in the Russian Soviet Socialist Federated Republic."

At plenums of a number of Komsomol kray committees [kraykoms] and oblast committees [obkoms] and meetings of the Komsomol workers and aktiv that discussed the state of affairs in the Komsomol, decisions were reached and addressed to the Komsomol Central Committee on the need to create within the Komsomol a Komsomol of the Russian Soviet Socialist Federated Republic [RSFSR] with its own leading organs.

The Komsomol Central Committee plenum resolves as follows:

1. To support the proposal on the possible formation of an RSFSR Komsomol.

2. To recommend a study in the primary Komsomol organizations in the autonomous republics, krays, and oblasts of the RSFSR of the question of the need to form an RSFSR Komsomol. An all-Russian Komsomol conference will be convened on the basis of the opinion of members of the Komsomol in the RSFSR.

3. Giving due consideration to the proposals from members of the Komsomol, the Komsomol Central Committee Bureau shall be assigned to set up a working committee to make preparations for an all-Russian Komsomol conference to decide the question of the expediency of creating an RSFSR Komsomol and develop work to convene an inaugural congress.

4. The Komsomol Central Committee Bureau shall provide assistance in organizational and material support for the preparatory work.

The voting: 179 members of the Komsomol Central Committee in favor, none against, 1 abstention.

*****

Resolution of the 8th Komsomol Central Committee Plenum. "On Perestroyka in the International Activity of the Komsomol"

Proceeding from the need for further improvements in the international activity of the Komsomol and giving due consideration to the changes taking place in the life of the Komsomol and the changing situation in the international youth movement, the 8th Komsomol Central Committee Plenum resolves as follows:

1. The Komsomol Central Committee Bureau shall continue its work in actively promoting and explaining the ideas of the new political thinking in the international youth movement. It shall pursue the line of developing broad links and contacts with youth, student, and children's organizations of various ideological, world-outlook, and political orientations in the socialist, capitalist, and developing countries in order to achieve the high goals of building a nuclear-free, peaceful world, the democratization and humanization of international relations, and protection of the rights, freedoms, and interests of young persons and children.

2. To approve in the main the political results of the work of the delegation of Soviet youth to the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students.

While preserving the best traditions of the festival movement, to continue the course toward renewing its forms and content and devising slogans and programs for world festivals in accordance with the realities in the development of the present-day world.

To advocate the orientation of the festival movement on resolving problems that are first and foremost common to all humankind and global in nature, and to include within the orbit of the festivals new political forces that share their ideals and goals. Here, the world festivals should be focused more on youth and less on ostentation and spending.

The Komsomol will support the development of the world festival movement on the basis of these approaches.

The Komsomol will approach questions of providing material assistance for the holding of world festivals of youth and students in accordance with realistic possibilities.

3. The Komsomol Central Committee believes that under present-day conditions the activity of the Komsomol should be built giving more attention to the interests of its members, and should to a significant degree be oriented on finding solutions to the problems of internal development in the Komsomol and satisfying the primary needs and demands of Soviet youth, as, for example, in the sphere of education, computerization, professional training, and the realization of economic, scientific and technical, and other projects.

4. The Komsomol Central Committee favors the extension of independence for republic and local Komsomol organizations in their conduct of international affairs, and it expresses its readiness to transfer to them an appropriate part of the Central Committee's international links, and the funding required for this. The international cooperation of Komsomol committees need not necessarily be linked to the plans of local organs. At the same time, Komsomol committees' free quest in the development of contacts with partners abroad should be realized by proceeding from a common, agreed line in our league.

The Komsomol Central Committee will welcome the establishment by republic Komsomol organizations of relations with international and regional professional, scientific and technical, ecological, and other youth, student, and children's associations on the basis of the existing rules of procedure and existing international practice. Together with this the Komsomol Central Committee believes that Komsomol representation in international structures is the prerogative of the central organs and it proceeds from the premise that the interests of Soviet youth in the corresponding international and regional associations can be represented through the USSR Committee for Youth Organizations.

5. In order to recruit members of the Komsomol central elected organs more actively for work on Komsomol international policy, and to take into account the interests of republic and local Komsomol organizations, the Komsomol Central Committee Commission for International Ties shall be assigned the task of conducting special youth meetings on a regular basis on key questions of the international activity of the Komsomol, with the participation of representatives of state organs and other public organizations, and independent experts.

6. While noting that the Komsomol does not lay claim to monopoly representation of the interests of all Soviet youth abroad, the Komsomol Central Committee favors equal cooperation within the framework of the renewal of the USSR Committee for Youth Organizations with all youth associations and organs of public independence in the country operating within the framework of socialist prospects on the basis of the USSR Constitution.

7. The Komsomol Central Committee favors the creation of a state mechanism for the development of international youth exchanges and for providing support and funding for them.

Welcoming the signing of intergovernmental agreements between the USSR and Poland, the USSR and the FRG, and the USSR and France on youth exchanges and cooperation, the Komsomol expresses its readiness to cooperate with state organs and interested public organizations to realize them within the framework of their own Komsomols as a sociopolitical organization and with sociopolitical functions.

8. In order to create the necessary conditions for the expansion of participation by Soviet youth in international youth exchanges and cooperation, the question of the USSR Supreme Soviet resolving the following problems shall be raised for the group of deputies from the Komsomol:

—change in the status of citizens' passports to enable free travel, as a minimum, to socialist countries, without additional formalities;

—the inclusion of the USSR as soon as possible in the "Inter-Rail" system of international transport privileges for youth, as follows from the Vienna agreements signed by our country;

—real implementation in our country of the General Declaration on Human Rights, which proclaims the inalienable right of each citizen to travel freely abroad and return to his own country, and adoption of a corresponding law by the USSR Supreme Soviet.

*****

The Komsomol today is striving for a more active role in the shaping of the foreign policy course of the USSR. Involving in this process the broad youth masses, remaining in the channel of CPSU strategy, the Komsomol will put forward initiatives based on independent thinking and the principles of the new political thinking. By extending the interaction with the state organs and institutions and the public organizations, the Komsomol will strive to achieve a situation in which in their international activity they give greater consideration to the needs and interests of youth.

The voting: 183 members of the Komsomol Central Committee in favor, 3 against, no abstentions.

*****

Resolution of the 8th Komsomol Central Committee Plenum. "On the 22nd Lithuanian Komsomol Congress"

Having discussed the results of the 22nd Lithuanian Komsomol Congress, the Komsomol plenum resolves as follows:

To set up a commission made up of members of the Komsomol central elected organs to study the problems arising in connection with congress decisions.

The commission will present its proposals at the next Komsomol Central Committee plenum.

The voting: 154 members of the Komsomol Central Committee in favor, 1 against, 13 abstentions.

Latvia Issues Ration Cards for 'Goods'

PM1608092989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Aug 89 Morning Edition p 6

[Report by own correspondent I. Litvinova: "Present Documents in the Store"]

[Text] Riga—The distribution of individual cards giving the right to acquire goods has begun in Latvia.

I received a visiting card at the house management administration. Why at the house management administration? The point is that the new document is unlike the ordinary visiting cards we exchange when making someone's acquaintance. There is pandemonium in Riga's photographic studios: A photograph of the owner is stuck to the visiting card and the card is then stamped. Now you can go to the store. The document gives inhabitants of the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic the right to buy industrial and food goods on a special list.

The inhabitants of Latvia have varying attitudes toward the sale of goods by visiting cards. Some support the action, which has become part of the program to protect the consumer interests of the republic's population. To others it seems unethical. They argue thus: After all in Moscow, Kiev, Sochi, Tashkent, and other cities, guests from Latvia are not refused the right to buy. Why should we establish another "barrier" for our fellow citizens?

The preceding action—the introduction of restrictions on the dispatch of parcels and packages—brought a fair amount of nervousness. The same thing can be expected from the new restrictions.

In addition it is noted that the visiting cards will not replace the coupons for sugar and soap in the republic and that quotas for the supply of some other goods to each person remain. Minors will have to go to the store with their pupils' tickets. Only by showing these tickets will they be able to buy goods on the "list." Visiting cards will also be issued to those coming to Latvia temporarily to study or work. But those sent on business trips or tourists will have to be content with public catering. In Lithuania, where customers' "visiting cards" have also been introduced, it is planned to allow any customer 200 grams of sausage and cheese. In Latvia they have decided not even to make this exception.

Representatives of the republic's Ministry of Trade have announced that the introduction of visiting cards is a temporary measure designed to protect the republic's consumer market but the date for the end of the experiment is not yet known.

Latvian Declaration of Sovereignty Outlined

PM1508111989 Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 29 Jul 89 p 1

["Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet Declaration on Latvia's State Sovereignty" adopted 28 July 1989]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Fulfilling the will of the people of Latvia, the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet proclaims:

1. Henceforth, with the adoption of this declaration, the development of the Latvian SSR takes place under conditions of real state sovereignty as understood in state law and international law.

2. The sovereignty of the Latvian SSR is unified and indivisible. On their own territory the people of Latvia independently exercise legislative, executive, and judicial power guaranteeing the flowering both of the Lettish nation and of all the national and ethnic groups inhabiting Latvia's territory.

3. The land and its minerals, forests, waters, and other natural resources are the republic's national wealth belonging to the people of Latvia.

4. The state status of the Latvian SSR within the USSR is determined by treaty relations; the Latvian SSR's new legal status must be enshrined legislatively in the USSR Constitution and the Latvian SSR Constitution, in new USSR laws and Latvian SSR laws (on citizenship, on republic ownership, and others), and in changes and additions to Soviet legislation.

5. The supremacy of Latvian SSR laws is recognized on the territory of the Latvian SSR. USSR laws come into force on Latvia's territory only after ratification by the Latvian SSR's supreme organ of state power.

6. The Latvian SSR establishes relations with other states on a treaty basis.

The Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet urges the people of Latvia to unite on the basis of this declaration in the name of turning our republic into a truly sovereign rule-of-law state.
[Signed] Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet

Report Given at Latvian Supreme Soviet Session

PM1508113989 Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 30 Jul 89 p 3

[LATINFORM account of report by Deputy L.L. Bartkevich, deputy chairman of the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic Council of Ministers, delivered at the 28 July sitting of the 12th Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet Session: "On the Draft Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic Law 'On Meetings, Rallies, Street Processions, and Demonstrations'"]

[Text] Esteemed deputies! In accordance with the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet Presidium resolution of 18 May 1989, a commission has drawn up the draft Latvian SSR Law "On Meetings, Rallies, Street Processions, and Demonstrations."

The elaboration of the new draft law was prompted by the fact that the existing statute on the procedure for organizing and holding meetings, rallies, street processions, and demonstrations, whose last edition was approved by a Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree of 29 July 1988, was insufficiently precise and effective on certain questions and the need has arisen for further democratization of citizens' opportunities to express their sociopolitical views. There was also a lack of clarity regarding so-called "pickets" and their legal position—which provoked a serious discussion in the republic press. So it is clear that to settle all these questions it was necessary to adopt a corresponding Latvian SSR law to clearly regulate questions connected with meetings, rallies, street processions, and demonstrations.

The draft law was twice discussed in the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and was published in the press. A number of valuable suggestions and clarifications were made. The commission assessed them and supplemented the draft law accordingly. It has now been submitted, esteemed deputies, for your consideration.

The draft law is based on the condition provided for in Article 48 of the Latvian SSR Constitution that citizens of the Latvian SSR are guaranteed freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and freedom to hold meetings, rallies, street processions, and demonstrations. Thus this right is guaranteed for citizens by the constitution, and so it is illogical for citizens to have to obtain certain permits and consent to realize this guaranteed right. The only restriction (not a ban) in the draft law is envisaged if the holding of a street procession, demonstration, and so forth might impede traffic or the holding of some other event.

However, in these cases, too, the draft law provides not for a ban on street processions, demonstrations, and so forth but only for a change in the time or venue of an event or in the routing of traffic, so that this accords with the interests of all citizens.

The submission of an application to the soviet executive committee [ispolkom] is provided for only to ensure observance of the interests of all citizens. The time for submitting an application has been reduced from 10 to 7 days so as to enable citizens to express their attitude to the most urgent questions more promptly. And the ispolkoms are being relieved of some of their load, since they have to examine applications only if there is a need to change the time or venue of a measure or a route. In addition, these questions have been resolved with due regard for the opinion of the event's organizers.

The draft law provides that ispolkoms may agree to a reduction in the time for submitting an application if residents need to express their attitude to some very urgent question.

The commission believes that it would be desirable to allow soviets of people's deputies or their ispolkoms (this should be specified when adopting the law) to establish on their territory a definite time and place where citizens could gather, express their views, and debate without submitting an application to the ispolkom in advance. I believe that this would be a real guarantee of free speech for citizens and would accord with the interests of maintaining public order.

The draft law also resolves urgent questions connected with so-called "pickets." The draft law calls them events in which citizens publicly express their views with the help of posters, slogans, banners, or other visual means. This means events which really should be considered demonstrations, but without processions, speeches, debates, and so forth. The draft law strictly lays down that such events must not impede the work of establishments and organizations (therefore it is stipulated that entrances to buildings and staircases cannot be used for these purposes) nor impede the free movement of transport or pedestrians. It is not necessary to apply to the ispolkom to hold such events, as the static nature of the event, if it does not impede other citizens or establishments, cannot give rise to objections from the ispolkom with regard to the venue and timing of the event.

The draft law clearly defines that it is inadmissible to organize events aimed at forcibly changing our state and social system, propagandizing war and ethnic dissension, infringing citizens' constitutional rights, or conducting other activity prohibited by law. However, if something similar is still organized, the appropriate persons authorized by the ispolkoms stop it without delay, and proceedings are instituted against the organizers of the event and other initiators of disturbances in accordance with Latvian SSR legislation.

At the last Supreme Soviet Presidium session representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and certain jurists made several proposals which the commission has not yet included in the draft law. I wish to inform the deputies of them.

There was a proposal to allow picketing only in places set aside by the ispolkom and at a time set by the ispolkom; an application would have to be submitted to the ispolkom in other cases.

—This proposal virtually totally equates pickets with rallies and meetings. The commission recognized that pickets must be given greater freedom of action in comparison with rallies and meetings, for the static nature of pickets, taking into account the restrictions indicated in the draft, cannot impede public order or the movement of pedestrians or transport.

There was a proposal not to allow picketing outside apartment blocks in which the officials against whom the picket is directed live, for this could inflict a mental trauma on members of that official's family.

—Article 4 of the draft law already points out that the entrances and stairwells of buildings must not be used for picketing, and the movement of transport and pedestrians must not be impeded either. It is impossible in practice to establish any other restrictions on pickets outside apartment blocks, for then it will be necessary to lay down the distance at which it is possible to picket. But then there will again be apartment blocks. In that case it will be virtually impossible to picket in a city's residential districts. And a picket will be unpleasant for members of an official's family both outside the apartment block and anywhere else. If picketing outside apartment blocks is to be prohibited, then it will be necessary to prohibit street processions and demonstrations from passing houses where officials live. As you realize, this cannot be done.

There was a proposal to allow picketing no closer than 100 meters from buildings where soviet sessions are being held and from court buildings.

—The commission refrained from adopting this variant because this could only create unnecessary conflicts when defining the distance. In addition, it is not clear why a poster 95 meters away might have an adverse effect on sessions but loses its impact at a distance of 105 meters.

There was a proposal that only ispolkom members and not plenipotentiary representatives of ispolkoms must be given the right to end illegal events.

—The commission believes that the ispolkom itself will decide who should be a plenipotentiary representative on the ispolkom's behalf at the time of events. After receiving an application to hold an event, the ispolkom routinely appoints plenipotentiary representatives who preferably should make contact with the event's organizers before it takes place.

And, finally, the commission believes that the adoption of this draft law guarantees freedom of speech and freedom to hold meetings, rallies, street processions, and demonstrations for the republic's citizens and will enable all residents actively to join in the perestroyka processes and to express their convictions on any topical subject for our country.

Draft of Latvian Constitution Amendment Cited

18001480 Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 26 Jul 89 p 2

["Draft of The Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic Law on Amendment of Article 31 of the Constitution (Basic Law) of the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic"]

[Text] The Supreme Soviet of the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] resolves:

To draft Article 31 of the Latvian SSR Constitution in the following wording:

Article 31. Latvian SSR citizenship is the citizen's stable political-legal link with the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic, determining his loyalty to the Latvian SSR.

Latvian SSR citizenship is the source of the republic citizen's honor and dignity.

The procedure for acquiring and losing Latvian SSR citizenship is determined by the Law on Latvian SSR Citizenship.

In accordance with the single union citizenship established in the USSR, each Latvian SSR citizen is a citizen of the USSR.

Latvian SSR citizens overseas enjoy the defense and protection of the Soviet state.

Citizens of other union republics, while on Latvian SSR territory, enjoy the very same rights and freedoms and carry the very same responsibilities as a Latvian SSR citizen, unless otherwise follows from the Constitution and laws of the Latvian SSR.

Citizens of other union republics are equal before the law regardless of origin, social and economic status, race or nationality, sex, education, language, religion, type and nature of employment, and other circumstances.
[Signed] Chairman of the presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Latvian SSR
Secretary of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Latvian SSR

Lithuanians Gather To Discuss Statehood

LD0508181889 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1600 GMT 5 Aug 89

[Text] A leading representative of the Lithuanian Communist Party, Justas Paleckis, head of the Ideology Department, has signed a resolution demanding an independent Lithuanian state. The resolution was adopted at a meeting in Gotland today. A number of Lithuanian organizations, headed by the People's Front, Sajudis, assembled there to discuss Lithuania's future. The meeting also discussed the demand for declaring invalid the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact, which led to the Soviet Union's occupation of the Baltic States at the beginning of World War II.

Article on 'Lithuanian Declaration' Criticized

LD1508130089 Vilnius KOMJAUNIMO TIESA in Lithuanian 22 Apr 89 p 2

[Article by Gintare Adomaityte, entitled "Games, a Look at Yesterday's PRAVDA"]

[Text] Yesterday was a peculiar day. "PRAVDA" made an attempt at humor yesterday in a manner which did not appear humorous to us at all. Many are already familiar with this story, but we shall recount it once more for those who are not aware of it. Following readers' requests, declarations of Lithuania's and Estonia's incorporation into the USSR were published in PRAVDA; Russian copies and original (Lithuanian, Estonian) copies appeared alongside the Russian version in usual newspaper script. However, the Lithuanian Declaration is totally different.... It does not concern incorporation but rather "announcement of the land as property of the entire nation, i.e. state property." We would like to cite one phrase from it for those who have not yet read the declaration: "Henceforth, all land currently held by citizens and also land that will be portioned out to those without land or those with small parcels of land, is affirmed to exist for the citizens' use for all time. Any attempts at threatening against a citizen's personal property or forced collective farm [kolkhoz] organization against the will of the citizen workers will be severely penalized as harmful to the people's and state interests." This is what PRAVDA unconsciously publishes. We wish to express our thanks for reminding us through the efforts of its absent-minded historians (journalists?), of things we might have otherwise forgotten about. We are already accustomed to hearing that Riga is the capital of Lithuania where everyone speaks Estonian. It is time to get unaccustomed to such things, however. The USSR Congress of People's Deputies is a prime lesson in geography. Currently, we need to become accustomed to the fact that various documents will be exhibited in attempts to convince us: You got what you asked for. You know, it would be better if they were to say: Take what you would like to have. I know from my own experience how depressing mistakes can be. There exists no more dismal example than that of opening a current newspaper, looking at an article someone has written and gasping: What do we have here? I wonder what Moscow individual was subjected to this feeling yesterday? How are they going to carry on in the future? Here, in Lithuania, we are in favor of having the declaration concerning land ownership also published in Russian so that it may be read and contemplated. I don't know whether someone should offer a public apology. In my opinion—no. There has been so much joking going on—let us continue a while longer.... The PRAVDA article was entitled "Documents Attest." In reality, it served to prove that currently, one can play with history at will.

Lithuania Issues Resolution on Forests

PM1108121589 Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 11 Jul 89 p 2

["Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet Resolution on Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic Forestry Areas Occupied by Military Forestry Units"—SOVETSKAYA LITVA headline]

[Text] In connection with a question from Z. Vayshvila, a deputy of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet, the Lithuanian SSR Supreme Soviet resolves:

To instruct the Lithuanian SSR Council of Ministers to examine and solve the question of returning forests administered by military forestry units and located in the republic's territory to forestry enterprises of the Lithuanian SSR Ministry of Forestry.

[Signed] V. Astrauskas, chairman of the Lithuanian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium
L. Sabutis, secretary of the Lithuanian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Vilnius, 5 July 1989.

K.I. Masik Appointed Ukrainian Deputy Premier

PM1508130589 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 23 Jul 89 p 3

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet Presidium"]

[Text] The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Comrade Konstantin Ivanovich Masik deputy chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers.

Party Views of Ukrainian Nationalists Criticized

PM1108154089 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Aug 89 Second Edition p 4

[PRAVDA correspondent M. Odinets report under the rubric "PRAVDA Press Courier": "But Where Are the Counterarguments?"]

[Text] Kiev—In a recent issue of the republican newspaper RABOCHAYA GAZETA, an item entitled "Beginning of Dialogue" is published—an account of a talk between V. Volkov, first secretary of Lvov City party committee [gorkom] and three members of the executive committee of the so-called "Ukrainian Helsinki Union," V. Chernovol, M. Goryn, and B. Goryn.

Conducting dialogue with representatives of informal organizations is necessary, and the leaders of party committees have plenty of scope for activity here. The talk that took place, the newspaper writes, "was exclusively of an informative, fact-finding nature." Although, let me note, the man who conducted the talk and the RABOCHAYA GAZETA editorial office both had a good knowledge of the extremist views of the three, and of their calls for a "separatist assembly" [samostiynaya sobornaya] Ukraine, malicious slander attacks on the party, and demands to deprive the CPSU of its leading role in our society's life, as well as the inflammatory speeches made by V. Chernovol and M. Goryn in Kiev at the founding conference of the Kiev organization of the Ukrainian people's movement and the subsequent rally.

The newspaper constantly stresses: "Chernovol expressed the idea...", "V. Chernovol reported...", "M. Goryn pointed out...", "M. Goryn described as irresponsible...." What idea did V. Chernovol express? The idea of forming a kind of federal system in the Soviet Ukraine, which would consist of regional formations. For instance: Podoliya, Volyn, Tavriya, Polesye, Galitsiya, Bukovina—following the example of the states of the United States, or the Lander in the FRG.... And what did M. Goryn and his colleagues speak about? They said that the historical act of reunification of all the Ukrainian lands was certainly positive, but it did not bring the anticipated freedom in 1939... and so on, and so forth.

Again, I repeat—dialogue with people representing different views and feelings is absolutely necessary, but V. Chernovol and M. and B. Goryn are odious figures. The Ukrainian public knows them, from their speeches at informal rallies and meetings, as ardent champions of the nationalist idea and inciters of disturbances who have done much to create an unpleasant atmosphere in Lvov, and to describe in pleasant tones a conversation whose participants "talk calmly and quietly, giving way to each other in everything," is shortsighted at best. After all, if such a conversation is printed in many thousands of copies, the party committee should express a clear ideological position and its cogent arguments should be counterposed to the opponents' arguments. But that did not happen.

Only a month ago RABOCHAYA GAZETA wrote that the participants in the founding conference of the Kiev regional organization of the Ukrainian people's movement heard in V. Chernovol's speech at the conference "calls for nationalism, separatism, and, in essence, the Ukraine's secession from the USSR. They also learned that Chernovol is terribly annoyed about the celebration of the approaching jubilee of the reunification of the Ukrainian lands. The Ukrainian people's festival arouses outright hostility in him. That, of course, is not surprising, since he then goes into his favorite subject of the rehabilitation of the Bander bandits.... Trying to whitewash Banderism, Chernovol shamelessly distorted historical facts...."

A calm, quiet talk—with people like that. One wonders: Where is RABOCHAYA GAZETA's party position?

Moldavian Resolution on Interethnic Tasks Noted

PM1508115589 Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 16 Jul 89 pp 1, 3

[Unattributed report: "In the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee and the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic Council of Ministers"]

[Text] The Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Council of Ministers have adopted a resolution "On Recent Events in the City of Kishinev."

The resolution notes that party, soviet, law enforcement, and other organs have recently taken specific measures to normalize the situation in the city of Kishinev and the republic, to further develop the processes of democratization and glasnost, and to affirm the principles of social justice and people's legal protection. The republic's Communists, concerned about the state of affairs, are discussing the tasks stemming from the 13th Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum decisions. The evaluations and stipulations contained in M.S. Gorbachev's speech on Central Television have encountered a broad response, understanding, and approval among the population.

On the eve of celebrations to mark the 49th anniversary of the day when Bessarabia was liberated and the Moldavian people were reunited within the USSR, the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee and the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers appealed to the republic's population to resolutely counter attempts by extremist elements to destabilize the situation and to sow ethnic dissension among people. Work is continuing on draft laws on languages in the republic, which will very soon be submitted for examination by a scheduled session of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet. Ways are being sought to collaborate and really cooperate with unsponsored formations.

At the same time, the political situation in the capital and the republic remains complex. Economic difficulties and shortages in supplying the population with foodstuffs and prime necessities are being eliminated only slowly. Crime and lawbreaking continue to grow.

Recent events in Kishinev have had a negative effect on the situation in the republic. Along with the constructive proposals made in a number of speeches during an authorized rally by the Moldavian People's Front on 25 June, the resolution which was adopted contains clearly biased statements and calls. The republic's citizens and residents were justifiably indignant at the wrecking of the 28 June celebrations to mark the day of Bessarabia's liberation and its reunification with the USSR and the gala concert at "Oktombriye" Palace, and at the attempts by isolated hooligans to desecrate the republic's state flag. Despite the measures which were taken, the authorized rally by the "Yedinstvo" International Movement in Victory Square was wrecked on 9 July as a result of breaches of public order.

All this could not fail to have an impact on the state of interethnic relations, which remain tense. The increasingly frequent recent cases of extremism and other negative phenomena fail to receive the due principled evaluation from party and soviet organs and primary party organizations.

In the far from simple situation prevailing in the city of Kishinev, the city party committee [gorkom] acts indecisively and inconsistently, often letting the political initiative slip out of its hands, taking the stance of a detached observer, and awaiting instructions and recommendations from above in every instance. Proper conclusions from the 13th Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum demands have not been drawn by Rybnitsa party Gorkom, Kriulyanskiy, Kalarashskiy, Nisporenskiy, Strashenskiy, Yalovenskiy, and other rayon party committees [raykoms] and city and rayon soviet executive committees.

The role of individual primary party organizations in improving the sociopolitical situation has been downgraded. Many of them have not elaborated a clear-cut party position and inadequately influence the state of affairs. Instead of engaging in lively organizational work to rally labor collectives, at times some party organization secretaries actually initiate the holding of events and the adoption of sundry resolutions which do not help in making the situation any healthier.

Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee departments and the republic Council of Ministers Administration of Affairs are inadequate in monitoring the implementation of planned events and fail to give the necessary assistance to local party and soviet organs in the prevailing complex situation.

Many ministries and departments shy away from events, often being ignorant of the state of affairs in collectives and failing to adopted the necessary measures to solve the accumulated socioeconomic problems. Concern is generated by the stance taken by Communists in leadership positions and specialists in enterprises who not only fail to get personally involved in making the situation healthier but also whip up the situation through their own actions.

In the prevailing situation, proper efficiency is lacking in the work of the State Planning Committee [Gosplan], the State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, the State Committee for Statistics, and other republic organs which are called upon to ensure the solution of many of the problems which have accumulated in the economy and the social sphere, to widely inform the population of the work being done, and to competently resolve questions raised by the public.

Trade union organs are slow in restructuring themselves, failing to exert the due influence on the state of affairs within labor collectives.

The activity of the republic's Leninist Communist Youth League [Komsomol] organizations is not keeping up with the young people's growing political activeness. The Moldavian Komsomol Central Committee has failed to take a firm enough hold of the situation among young people or to actively influence the activity of the youth press.

Law enforcement organs are slow and indecisive in preventing and halting lawbreaking in the course of rallies and demonstrations. They often fail to respond to individual manifestations of chauvinism, nationalism, and extremism. There are long delays in instituting proceedings against persons who have breached public order, and this creates an impression of impunity with respect to such actions. Some law enforcement organs staffers at times lose their political bearings in their actions and forget the role of the courts, the prosecutor's office, and the militia in the state's political system.

The sociopolitical situation in the republic is negatively affected by some actions by unsponsored formations and by their lack of comprehension of the situation and the complexity of perestroyka processes.

Members of the People's Front aktiv flatly brush aside Moldavia's achievements in all spheres of economic, social, and cultural development within the fraternal family of Soviet republics, and their statements show traces of nostalgia for the life led by the region's population during the years of occupation by monarchist Romania. At events organized by this front's supporters one can hear occasional irresponsible slogans calling for a review of the importance of famous historical dates and events in the Moldavian people's life, territorial claims are expressed, and there are increasingly frequent appearances of tricolor flags and other symbols which do not conform with the Moldavian SSR's Constitution.

Some representatives of the "Yedintsvo" International Movement sow the seeds of alarm in people's minds, spread rumors, display ambition, and at times lack comprehension of the complexity of the solution of accumulated problems, and often make ultimatum demands. Evidence of this can be seen in resolutions adopted at this movement's recently held unauthorized congress.

Supporters of the "Gagauz Khalky" Movement put forward incompletely thought-out demands in matters of autonomy, the economy, and language, which does not help to harmonize interethnic relations.

Material carried by some press organs is not in line with the interests of improving the health of the sociopolitical situation, either. The republic press, radio, and television do not propagandize sufficiently the ideas of consolidation, and there are infrequent articles and programs helping to improve the forms and methods of the population's international and patriotic education and the strengthening of friendship between peoples.

The Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and the Moldavian SSR Council of Ministers condemned the extremist demonstrations which occurred in the city of Kishinev and complicated the sociopolitical situation and interethnic relations in the republic. The most important task of party, soviet, and law enforcement organs and of all social formations must be to take resolute measures to rectify the sociopolitical situation and to launch everywhere organizational and political work to implement the demands stemming from the 1 July speech by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, on Central Television.

The attention of Kishinev party gorkom (Comrade N.A. Tsyu) was drawn to the unjustified slowness in taking measures to stabilize and rectify the situation in the city and the waverings shown in the party appraisal of situations and of actions by individual Communists which help to destabilize the situation. The party gorkom and raykoms must elaborated specific and clear-cut positions in the prevailing situation and must rely more in their work on the city's working class and intelligentsia.

The Kishinev City Soviet Executive Committee [gorispolkom] (Comrade V.G. Dobrya) was instructed to ensure the fulfillment of the city soviet session's decision banning unsponsored formations from Victory Square and Liberation Square for the purpose of rallies, marches, and other actions. Different permanent sites must be allocated for these purposes, taking into account the need to ensure that citizens have favorable conditions for peaceful leisure and that proper public order is maintained.

People in every city, rayon, labor collective, and education establishment and in their places of residence must examine in depth the prevailing moral and psychological situation and must elaborate a detailed package of measures to rectify its and eliminate the causes underlying the complications which have developed.

It is necessary to organize work in such a fashion as to ensure that matters do not reach the point when emergency measures have to be taken, and at the same time to resolutely rebuff in an atmosphere of glasnost any nationalist manifestations and condemn irresponsible statements about reshaping of borders and calls for economic autarky, spiritual isolation, and separation of people along nationality lines.

The Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and the Moldavian SSR Council of Ministers requested party gorkom and raykom first secretaries and chairmen of gorispolkoms and rayon soviet executive committees [rayispolkom] to ensure unconditional fulfillment of of the 13th Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum decisions and to channel the efforts of party organizations and all social formations toward the solution of the specific tasks of perestroyka. In line with the new demands, it is necessary to improve ideological work and to ensure everywhere the shaping of a healthy moral and psychological climate and the creation of the conditions necessary for fruitful labor, calm, and confidence in the future.

Party gorkoms and raykoms must be stricter in taking Communists in leadership positions at enterprises and organizations to task for the educational consequences of decisions adopted, the state of mass political work and of labor and state discipline in labor collectives, and the expansion of glasnost and democracy in the management of economic and social processes.

Comrade V.G. Kutyrkin, chairman of the Moldavian SSR Gosplan, ministries, state committees, departments, gorispolkoms, and rayispolkoms were instructed to take all the necessary measures to more fully satisfy the population's demands for foodstuffs and consumer goods and to eliminate the shortages of articles in mass demand. Work must be stepped up to ensure the unconditional fulfillment of targeted programs elaborated in the social sphere.

Party gorkoms and raykoms must most rigorously monitor the solution of all problems accumulated in the economy, services for the population, ecology, and other important spheres of life.

The Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee Socioeconomic Department and Ideological Department, jointly with the Moldavian SSR Gosplan, State Committee for Statistics, State Committee for Labor and Social Problems were instructed to submit within 2 weeks proposals on a system for keeping the population informed on all questions of the republic's economic and social development.

Central Committee departments and the republic Council of Ministers Administration of Affairs, party gorkoms and raykoms, gorispolkoms and rayispolkoms, the Moldavian Council of Trade Unions, and the Moldavian Komsomol Central Committee must implement specific measures to organize a constructive dialogue with representatives of unsponsored formations, involving them in and channeling their activity toward the solution of the practical tasks of perestroyka. At the same time, there must be no pandering or liberalism in the appraisal of unlawful actions by individual groups and members of unsponsored formations, and there must be a resolute rebuff to antisocialist, nationalist, chauvinist, and other negative manifestations which could lead to further complications in interethnic relations.

The Moldavian Council of Trade Unions (Comrade G.I. Yeremey) must become more demanding toward republic trade union committees and trade unions in enterprises, institutions, and farms concerning the strengthening of labor discipline and organization in production and must duly appraise any manifestations of carelessness and sloppiness. There must be a prompt response to attempts to disorganize the production process, and demagogues, rumormongers, and persons with extremist leanings must be rebuffed. There must be bolder involvement in the solution of all problems perturbing people, and their interests and rights must be more actively upheld.

The Moldavian Komsomol Central Committee (Comrade D.P. Bragish) must concentrate its efforts on enhancing the educational role of Komsomol organizations and the capture of ideological initiative among young people. Young people's interests must be more persistently, more actively, and more specifically upheld.

There must be purposeful work to rally and channel the efforts of various unsponsored young people's formations along the tracks of perestroyka.

The creative unions, councils of party, war, and labor veterans, women's councils, and science, education, culture, and sports institutions were instructed to step up their activity, channeling it toward intensifying the patriotic and international education of working people and the entire population and creating an atmosphere of trust, cooperation, and goodwill in collectives and residential neighborhoods.

The Moldavian SSR Academy of Sciences (Comrade A.A. Zhuchenko) and the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee Institute of Party History (Comrade V.D. Isak) were instructed to set up a creative group to study and prepare conclusions associated with the main historical landmarks in the Moldavian people's history since 1812, and to keep the public widely informed about these conclusions through the mass news and propaganda media.

Law enforcement organs (Comrades V.N. Voronin, A.A. Ryabov, N.K. Demidenko, G.I. Lavranchuk) were instructed to take, in conformity with the law, the most resolute measures toward those who provoke interethnic dissension and clashes, call for the reshaping of borders and the infringement of the rights of citizens of other nationalities, and demean human dignity.

The Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee Ideological Department (Comrade A.D. Gandrabura) and party gorkoms and raykoms must hold Communists working in the mass news and propaganda media more responsible for the objective coverage of political processes occurring in the republic, and also for the publication of materials and production of programs containing subjectivism, bias, and national narrow-mindedness. [sentence as published]

The Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and the republic's Council of Ministers call on all working people in Soviet Moldavia—workers and peasants, the intelligentsia, school and university students, veterans and young people, aktiv members of social formations—to display lofty conscientiousness, not to succumb to emotions and irresponsible appeals, and help in creating conditions to ensure that all people living in the republic can calmly live and work as members of a united family and can satisfy their national, social, and cultural needs.

RSFSR Discusses Draft Election Laws

LD1208103489 Moscow TASS in English 0728 GMT 12 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 12 TASS—The draft laws on the election of people's deputies of the Russian Federation and local Soviets (councils) were put to discussion in this largest republic within the USSR. These laws and the draft law on amending the constitution of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (RSFSR) are meant to create a legal base for carrying on the reform of government bodies in localities, which was launched late last year at the Union level.

The drafts, which were submitted by the presidium of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, reflect the amendments which were made in similar Union laws late last year. At the same time, they took into account the experience of the past elections and the decisions passed by the first Congress of People's Deputies of the USSR.

Just as in the elections of people's deputies of the USSR, the number of candidates in the elections of people's deputies of the republic and local soviets is not limited. Alongside work collectives and public organisations, electors' district meetings and servicemen voting in their units, the right of fielding candidates will also be granted to the students of secondary specialised and higher schools.

In contrast to the all-Union law, the republican draft law does not envisage the election of deputies by public organisations. Besides, the practice of holding district election meetings, which were mandatory during the election of the people's deputies of the country and, as many electors believe, did not always express their will, is limited. Such meetings are held only in cases when the number of candidates fielded in the district exceeds ten people, the draft says. Not less than two candidates should be put on the slate as a result of voting at district meetings. There are other new elements in the draft as well, which take into account the lessons of the last elections in the country.

Such documents are now discussed also in other union republics. In contrast to last years, they do not repeat each other in every point. For instance, the Ukrainian draft preserves the practice of electing deputies from public organisations. The Law on Elections, which was passed in Estonia, introduces minimum residence requirement as a result of which a considerable part of the population of this Baltic republic can be barred from elections. This is at odds with the USSR Constitution and sparked off strikes at several of the republic's factories and plants in recent days.

Siberian Ethnic Groups Form Association

LD1208140189 Moscow TASS in English 1305 GMT 12 Aug 89

[Text] Tyumen August 12 TASS—A congress of representatives of Khantiy and Mansiy, the two Soviet ethnic groups living in Siberia's northern regions, ended in Khantiy-Mansiysk, the administrative centre of the Khantiy-Mansiy Autonomous National District, on Friday [11 Aug]. It adopted the charter and program of the Association of the Northern Peoples of Khantiy and Mansiy.

The congress was attended by delegates from all over the country who are not indifferent to the fate of small ethnic groups inhabiting the Arctic and Pacific coasts.

The delegates stressed the importance of setting up the Association of Northern Peoples and suggested that an all-union congress of representatives of small ethnic groups be held to unite their efforts for resolving joint problems, especially the preservation of nature in the areas of habitation and development of their unique national cultures.

Twenty-six ethnic groups with a combined population of more than 150,000 people live on the Soviet Arctic and Pacific coasts. These peoples were totally illiterate before the 1917 October Socialist Revolution.

Special schools teaching native languages were opened for the northern peoples after the revolution and an institute was set up in Leningrad in the 1930s to create alphabets for them. First books written by northern writers were published.

The command-administrative system has affected negatively the local environment, culture, and the socioeconomic development of the northern ethnic groups.

The growing political activity of the residents of the severe northern regions is designed to remove these failings.

Commission Discusses Findings on Tbilisi Events

PM1008102089 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 28 Jul 89 p 2

[GRUZINFORM report: "At the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet Commission"]

[Text] The Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Commission To Investigate the Circumstances of the 9 April 1989 Tbilisi Events is continuing to work on summing up the material collected. Its latest session was devoted to a discussion of the draft of the final findings which was made available to the commission members beforehand for the submission of amendments and additions.

This draft, which contains both a legal and a sociopolitical and moral assessment of the events based on the facts, prompted a lively exchange of opinions. In view of the importance of the document in preparation, which is to be submitted for examination and approval by the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and then by a session of the republic's highest organ of state power, the speakers approached the discussion with a great sense of responsibility.

Considerations, observations, adn views on the draft as a whole and on individual provisions were put forward by Nina Dzhavakhishvili, Bidzina Naneishvili, Nodar Natadze, Irakliy Dzhordzhadze, Sergo Dzhorbenadze, Dzhoni Khetsuriani, Giga Lordkipanidze, Lana Gogoberidze, Shota Nadirashvili, Tamaz Gamkrelidze, Parmen Margvelashvili, Malkhaz Zaalishvili, Iza Ordzhonikidze, Dzhansug Charkviani, and others. In the course of the examination of the draft, concrete proposals and amendments were put forward to clarify certain formulas in the findings. Thus according to verified figures, after 9 April 4,035 people went to medical institutions in Tbilisi for medical help; 707 of them were hospitalized, while 3,328 were sent for outpatient treatment.

In connection with the observations and proposals made, it was decided once again to analyze the draft findings comprehensively and in depth, with a view to creating a comprehensive, reliable document that objectively reflects all aspects of what happened and the chain of cause and effect.

The deputy chairman of the commission, Aleksandr Aleksidze, chairman of the Georgian Republican Committee for the Defense of Peace, briefed the commission members on a message from his committee and other materials published in the publications of the World Peace Council and the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace in connection with the tragic events in Tbilisi. He presented a detailed survey of publications that appeared before and after these events in 50 leading newspapers and journals in foreign countries, among them the United States, Britain, France, Italy, the FRG, Austria, Belgium, and Sweden.

Azerbaijan Expanding Ties With Republics

NC0908123689 Baku Domestic Service in Armenian 0353 GMT 9 Aug 89

[From the republican press review]

[Text] In accordance with a decision by the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, Azerbaijan has recently expanded its ties with the other republics in social, political, economic, cultural, and other spheres of life. The apparatus of the republic's council of ministers is actively working in this direction. A delegation of members of the apparatus recently visited Turkmenia and other republics. An AZERINFORM report on this subject entitled "Practical Ties Are Improving" has been published in today's newspapers.

Interethnic Disputes 'Aggravated' in Uzbekistan

LD2607023389 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 25 Jul 89

[Text] [Announcer] Our correspondent reports from the capital of Uzbekistan:

The tragic events in Fergana Oblast which cast a cloud over life in the republic also make themselves known from time to time in other regions where Meskhetian Turks live in compact residence. On 23 July, on the grounds of interethnic relations, the situation became aggravated in Gulistanskiy Rayon. At the collective farm named after Lenin the homes of individual Meskhetian Turks were damaged. The excuse for the disorders was served by exaggerated rumors about squabbles among children. Thanks to efficient measures the ringleaders have been detained and made accountable. A meeting of the aktiv of the Syr-Darya Oblast took place in the town of Gulistan, during which the tasks of party, local soviet and Komsomol bodies in preventing new illegal actions on the part of young people were defined. Karimov, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Uzbek Communist Party, spoke at the meeting.

Uzbek Party Restriction on TV Broadcast Assailed

PM1707161189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Jul 89 First Edition p 2

[Own correspondent V. Artemenko dispatch: "Glasnost Kept in Check"]

[Text] Tashkent—At the republican agricultural workers' conference, the audience of 5,000 stirred visibly when S. Mamarasulov, first secretary of Surkhan-Darya Uzbek Communist Party Obkom [Oblast Committee], sharply criticized M. Khalmukhamedov, secretary of the republic's Communist Party Central Committee, for serious lapses in ideological work, of which he is in charge. The report and speeches of the participants of the conference were broadcast on local television and published in the newspapers. With only one inaccuracy—the criticism of the Central Committee secretary disappeared everywhere.

The fact of "concealing" criticism of a senior party official is no accident. "Awkward" information is still frequently concealed from journalists in Uzbekistan. Thus back on 29 May 1987 PRAVDA wrote in a rejoinder entitled "Unless You Leave We Won't Start!" about how the leaders of the "Glavmashkhlopkovodsto" Association, on the instructions of a Communist Party Central Committee department, ejected representatives of the press from a meeting examining progress in creating a new cotton harvesting machine.

There was no response to the newspaper's article, and subsequent actions by party organs confirm that there will be no analysis. Here, for example, is what reader Ye. Mun said in a recent impromptu interview for TASHKENTSKAYA PRAVDA: "I heard that in Tashkent members of the 'Birlik' informal association are in ferment and that rallies and fights are occurring in housing areas belonging to the tractor plant and on the student campus. But I cannot find any detailed information in the newspapers. Why did no journalist speak to the instigators of the disorder? In my opinion, one newspaper article is more productive than 10 lectures from a propagandist."

Indeed, why are journalists remaining silent? Here are some extracts from the resolution of a recent working conference of the Uzbek news agency's main desk for republican news and the release of information to TASS: "One of the main reasons for the reduction in our creative and political potential is the petty, often incompetent tutelage of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee Ideological Department. Our material is subjected to strict censorship there. Thus during the cotton harvest we were told not to write critical articles. We were forbidden to expose the attacks of certain demagogues who, we are convinced, deliberately or otherwise inflamed social and national conflicts. We were not allowed to report on events in the housing area of the tractor plant, the excesses at the university, the demonstration in the central square of Tashkent, and other similar events. Without approval from above, we cannot speak out on a single controversial question, and UZTAG has often been deservingly criticized for this by the central press."

Our colleagues are right—they are kept in blinders. Even during the tragic events in Fergana Oblast dispatches from the scene by the agency's correspondents were toned down and given a reassuring note in Central Committee departments, and orders were given "not to fuel passions." B. Allamuradov, first secretary of Namangan party obkom, angrily reprimanded UZTAG own correspondent N. Khodzhayeva for providing information on the situation in the oblast. Meanwhile in Tashkent senior officials were assigned from the Central Committee Ideological Department to newspaper night editorial desks to "ensure balance" in correspondents' reports from the Fergana valley actually on the page. Moreover, the Ideological Department sent all editorial offices a 19-point treatise entitled "Basic Guidelines for the Work of the Mass Media." This provides instructions on what to write about the events in Fergana and how.

Now, when the situation in Uzbekistan remains tense, the local press, with the help of the republic's Communist Party Central Committee, ought to block the channels for spreading slander, lies, and nationalism and report on life objectively, not hiding the bitter truth. And there is no need to impose recommendations on journalists. These are not always beyond reproach.

Tajikistan Passes Law on Constitutional Supplement

PM1508095589 Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA in Russian 28 Jul 89 p 1

["Tajik Soviet Socialist Republic Law on Supplementing the Tajik Soviet Socialist Republic Constitution (Fundamental Law)"—KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA headline]

[Text] The Tajik Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet resolves:

The following additions are to be made to the Tajik SSR Constitution (Fundamental Law) adopted 14 April 1978:

1. The constitution is to be supplemented by Article 71 Paragraph 1, as follows:

"Article 71 Paragraph 1. Tajik (Farsi) is the state language of the Tajik SSR.

"The spheres of use of the Tajik, Russian, Uzbek, Kirghiz, Turkmen, and other languages are defined by the Tajik SSR Law on Language."

2. In Article 110:

a) The article is to be supplemented by Paragraph 16, as follows:

"16) In the interests of the protection and safety of citizens of the Tajik SSR, they examine questions of declaring a state of emergency and introducing a curfew throughout the republic, as well as in individual localities";

b) Paragraph 16 is to be considered Paragraph 17.

[Signed] G. Pallayev, chairman of the Tajik SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium
A. Kasymova, secretary of the Tajik SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium
Dushanbe, 22 July 1989.

Union, Autonomous Republic Leaders Hold Meeting

PM2607113489 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jul 89 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Conference in the Kremlin"]

[Text] A conference of chairmen of union and autonomous republic Supreme Soviet Presidiums was held in the Kremlin 22 July. Representatives of a number of central institutions and organizations and local soviet organs, as well as legal scientists, took part.

The conference discussed questions relating to the forthcoming elections to republican and local organs of state power and the drafting of corresponding legislative acts.

The conference was addressed by: V.S. Shevchenko, chairman of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet Presidium; A.F. Ryuytel, chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; T.G. Ivanova, deputy chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet Presidium; V.A. Mikulich, deputy chairman of the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; T.A. Akmatov, chairman of the Kirghiz SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; V.P. Orlov, chairman of the USSR Central Electoral Commission for Elections of USSR People's Deputies; A.P. Romanovskiy, deputy chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; F.V. Sultanov, chairman of the Bashkir Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic [ASSR] Supreme Soviet Presidium; E.M. Kafarova, chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; V.A. Kvaratskheliya, secretary of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; V.V. Sidorova, deputy chairman of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; V.S. Astrauskas, chairman of the Lithuanian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; N.D. Pivovarov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee for Questions of the Work of Soviets of People's Deputies and the Development of Management and Self-Management; S.S. Avetisyan, deputy chairman of the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Sh.A. Mustayev, chairman of the Tatar ASSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; V.I. Vasilyev, first deputy director of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Soviet State Building and Legislation; T.I. Savitskaya, deputy chairman of the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; G.S. Tarazevich, chairman of the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities Commission for Nationalities Policy and Interethnic Relations; N.P. Kiriyak, secretary of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Ch.-D.B. Ondar, chairman of the Tuva ASSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; I.F. Dedov, deputy chairman of the Tajik SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; R.A. Bazarova, chairman of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Yu.I. Semukov, chairman of the Komi ASSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; and V.I. Romanov, chairman of the Mari ASSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The results of the exchange of opinions were summed up by A.I. Lukyanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet and candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo.

V.I. Vorotnikov, chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Ye.M. Primakov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union, and R.N. Nishanov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities, took part in the conference.

Media Coverage of Ethnic Unrest Examined

PM1508141089 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 31, 30 Jul 89 p 5

[Article by Aleksandr Mostovshchikov: "Nagorno-Karabakh—High Time To Undo the Knots"]

[Text] Karabakh is a stubbornly festering wound. Ferghana is reviving from shock, the conflagration in Sukhumi is cooling, though with difficulty, and the miners' thunder is abating. But the problems of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region, pushed off the newspaper pages, keep leading out like a freed spring. Then in the central and Republican press, we read TASS reports with the same headlines—"The events in Nagorno-Karabakh," or "Under the sign of trouble"—run through short items offered by TASS and articles in local publications: the situation has become aggravated and a complex state of affairs remains.

Yes, it's articles and reports by TASS which, as a rule, satisfy readers' hunger for information. They appear in the central and Republican press which provides a certain objectivity in speaking about the events. Local newspapers sometimes add their own notes and comments to news from Nagorno-Karabakh. Together, they give some idea of what's happening there.

Another session of tension became evident early in the month, when clashes started taking place between the Armenian and Azerbaijanian population in Kirkidzhan, a suburb of Stepanakert. Shotguns could be heard for several hours and arsonists, using flares, tried to ignite private houses and public buildings. The militia and internal troops localized the conflict. Fortunately, there were no casualties. But one event boiled over into another, mutual offences piled up, reason started clouding and emotions ran out of control. The situation got especially bad on the roads where, with increasing frequency, both sides started throwing stones at automobiles. Lately the "stone war" in Nagorno-Karabakh has somewhat died down. Internal troops in armoured vehicles are, on the whole, controlling the situation on the most important sections. But it is impossible to cover all roads.

Readers of Republican papers do not accept all TASS reports calmly though. One such report, for instance, said that three Azerbaijanians were attacked with firearms in the above-mentioned Kirkidzhan. Two of them were killed, one—seriously wounded. An ARMENPRESS correspondent in Stepanakert wrote, in the Republican newspaper Kommunist, that this announcement aggravated the situation because nobody knew who and why the Azerbaijanians were killed. The majority of residents in the regional capital were annoyed by this report. They complained that the item dramatized the events too much, contained lots of errors and lacked the cause-effect connection in presenting facts.

That in such an explosive-prone situation journalists should carefully weigh each word on the scales of objectivity goes without saying. By the way, publications in two Republican editions—BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY and KOMMUNIST—differ in their assessment of the situation in Karabakh. Still, in some of the articles one does sense an aspiration for objectivity.

In an article entitled "playing with fire," Rabochiy cites several facts from a last-minute report. A group of Azerbaijanians near the village of Malybeyli stopped a car among whose passengers were two Armenians—both servicemen. They were beaten up and the car wrecked. A self-made bomb was detonated in house no. 51 in Zorge street in Stepanakert, in a flat occupied by Azerbaijanians. Fortunately, no one was killed.

A special correspondent of KOMMUNIST reports from Stepanakert that an attack was made on a train going from the city to Baku. The train was stopped in Barda, all Armenians on board it were forced to get off and cruelly beaten. While in the Mardakertskiy District, Armenians blocked the road to Kelbadzhar and bashed in cars bearing Azerbaijanian license plates.

Attempts are being made to find ways to normalize the situation. Women and mothers of Azerbaijan have appealed to the women and mothers of Nagorno-Karabakh. They call on them to restore by joint work and mutual understanding, tranquility and peace to the land. But is it so easy to untangle the ball of contradictions that date back for many years? The same paper publishes the opinion of one of its readers, M. Aliyev. He thinks that such appeals are naive and useless. "Enough time has passed," he writes, "for us residents of Azerbaijan and for the country's leadership to realize that, in Nagorno-Karabakh, reason is helpless in the strugggle against emotions and extremism."

However, there are also other points of view of the situation. "The problem can be solved not by heaping obstacles on roads and streets, not by guns and homemade grenades," says Bakinskiy Rabochiy, "but by a democratic, reasonable discussion of painful questions. We trust that the parliamentary commission will concentrate not on the past, not on summing up the accumulated offences and claims, but on an analysis of the present situation and on how to rationally resolve this concrete situation."

"One hopes that the commission will manage to realize the fairness of the demands of Karabakh's residents," said Boris Dadamyan, people's deputy of the USSR, in an interview to a correspondent of Armenpress. "I think that, as a minimum, at the present stage a presidential rule should be introduced in the region. That should be agreeable both for the Armenians and the Azerbaijanians."

Yes, the assessments of the situation in the two Republican papers do vary. We must bear in mind they are lately involved in polemics devoted to Nagorno-Karabakh's past. But both papers agree that the latest session of tensions was connected with the approaching arrival to Stepanakert of the USSR Supreme Soviet commission, with attempts to hinder its work, to destabilize the situation and demonstrate the aggressiveness of the other side.

The commission has recently arrived in Stepanakert and will carry out a thorough analysis of the events that have led to the present situation in Nagorno-Karabakh. Let's not try to guess what its conclusion will be. All alternatives are acceptable except one—a preservation of the present-day explosive situation.

Article Suggests Reorganization of Republics

18300755 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 2 Aug 89 p 10

[Article by Vladimir Sokolov: "Democracy and Borders"]

[Text] *Glasnost has finally stretched its limits to such an extent that even a simple mortal such as myself, in this case, has taken the liberty of expressing out loud his fantasies about the state structure of the homeland. The sites of interethnic fires and the ashes of houses of compatriots burned by compatriots make our collective heart pound and demand an answer: Was the life of the peoples of our country arranged correctly or reasonably if such a thing is possible?*

And so the USSR is the largest country in the world in terms of territory. And the spaces are matched by the number of peoples populating them; ethnographers count hundreds and linguists assert that "About 130 languages of indigenous peoples are represented in the Soviet Union." The State Committee for Statistics insists on the formation of "more than 100 nations and nationalities." Even the last figure is fairly large for a nonemigrant state where people have been living for centuries and everything possible has occurred in their relations with one another.

How have we arranged this massive structure which is supposed to provide for a "correct combination of the interests of all the people as well as individual nations and nationalities?" It would seem that everyone knows this—the 15 union republics, in turn, include 20 autonomous republics, eight autonomous oblasts, 10 autonomous okrugs, and 129 krays and oblasts with the capital in the ancient Russian city of Moscow. But everyone knows something else as well: The constitutions of the union republics practically repeat the constitution of the USSR and only "take into account the peculiarities" of these republics which at the same time are sovereign states. The constitutions of the autonomous republics also repeat the constitutions of the union republics to which they belong (thus limiting themselves to certain essential rights), the autonomous oblasts do not even have constitutions, and the autonomous okrugs have no signs of autonomy at all except for a vague "administrative self-management."

This is the way we intended to construct the equal rights relations of the ethnic groups and nationalities, thus actually creating a hierarchy of rights. How, generally, do we compute it? If it is according to the names of the formations, the union will consist of a hierarchy with seven levels. Judging from the structure of the power organs, we count four levels. But if we were to count according to the rights of the party organs that have lost none of their executive authority, there are only three levels left because the party organizations of the ASSR's [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republics] and autonomous oblasts have the same rights as the obkoms [oblast party committee] and the organizations of the krays or "plain" oblasts. This shows us the real role of "autonomy" under the conditions of the role of the CPSU as the "guiding and directing force of the Soviet society, the nucleus of its political system." Thus the count is: the CPSU Central Committee, 14 central committees of communist parties of union republics under its jurisdiction, and more than 50 party obkoms under them.

There is no doubt that the party hierarchy looks the simplest and most logical with three levels—this is better than seven, which would cause any apparatus to balk. And at times when Communists have perceived their party affiliation as a more important aspect of their own individuality than than their nationality, the simple and orderly pyramid of party organs was an effective means of uniting and controlling the country. But the growth of national self-awareness revealed that entire ethnic groups populating the "territory of the obkoms" should because of party discipline (read—state discipline) obey the decisions of the central committees of the "higher" republics that are ruled by representatives of other ethnic groups. And they, in turn, must follow the instructions of the Politburo. Even if the orders coming down through this pyramid improved the well-being of the people and contributed to improving nature, even then sooner or later the ethnic groups would think: Can someone else really do a better job than we can with the homeland of our ancestors? Stagnation and the crisis of the economy only accelerated the arrival of this time and revealed that the simplicity of the "obkom pyramid" and the military orderliness of its verticals were being gained at the cost of justice in relations among ethnic groups.

But so far we have no other authority structure. Even the ultra-democratic 1st Congress of People's Deputies formed the Soviet of Nationalities according to a norm inherited from the past, which was not overly fair. Indeed, an ethnic group that has its own union republic receives 11 deputy positions for it, an ethnic group with an autonomous republic—only 1; this is less by a factor of 11! The rest also fall far behind the "first category"—the autonomous oblasts by a factor of 5.5 and the autonomous republics—by a factor of almost 3. Why? Where is the equality here?

Because of this norm, the number of levels of the "geographical" hierarchy, which does not really exist, has carried over into the Soviet parliament that is being created in our day and here it might seem to be a destructive factor. Is the friendship of the ethnic groups strengthened by the circumstance that they are divided into categories in the Soviet of Nationalities? And formally the will of an Estonian has a 10 times greater chance of becoming law than that of someone from Leningrad or Penza, and the will of an Evenk—a 100 times greater chance!

Of course this leap-frogging could take place only under the condition that it itself had no practical significance. And it did not—for the "obkom" pyramid with the previous Supreme Soviet with the guarantee that that same Evenk would not be in the Politburo. But the structures of state power are changing before our eyes and what previously seemed like utter nonsense to sovietologists could soon become a source of large contradictions and even conflicts. Do we have to wait for this?

The state needs restructuring to such an extent that if we want to retain its external boundaries we shall have to do something about its internal ones—this is already obvious to many people. It is also obvious that however artificial, questionable, and even doubtful our internal demarcations may have been at one time, now they are inviolable unless one sets the special goal of vivisection. A contradiction? By no means. Geographically the boundaries cannot change but their political content must change—in the direction indicated by the vector of democratization of the society as a whole.

Over the decades the Stalinist model of state structure has dealt blow after blow to the historical community of peoples who were once joined together by the Russian empire. Famine, repression, intellectual and cultural terror, the arms race, a cost oriented economy, the squandering natural resources, gangocracy—there is not an ethnic group in the country that has not had a full measure of these evils. One wishes to believe that some things are forever in the past and that we have recognized some things and are overcoming them. But then slowly, as in a nightmare, another hidden Stalinist mine explodes—complaints of ethnic groups against one another. There is nothing more terrible than this for a large power.

Regardless of what may be boiling up to the surface now—offenses to the aforementioned ethnic groups, conflicts between neighbors in Transcaucasia and Central Asia, the calls for help from minor ethnic groups in the north, the movements in the Baltic republics—in the offing, if we will look and see, are even more serious problems which are just breaking through the surface today.

Before looking for any way out of the existing situation, of course, we must determine the means we can and wish to use for this. For example, a tested means of retaining the integrity of the state and quelling interethnic conflicts is a military solution. Do we want this? No, of course not. Or we can generally eliminate the ethnic principle in the administrative division—as a correction, we might say, to Stalin's mistakes. Is this the way? By no means!

I am convinced that for successful restructuring we must accept several initial postulates that save the experience we have accumulated and also take into account the experience of developed democracies.

First—not a single one of the current territories should lose the smallest of its rights and authority with the exception of those whose realization would cause harm to other territories.

Second—the restructuring should take place in the direction of expansion of the rights and authority of those territories which today have less than others. The only basis for such an act would be a referendum expressing the desire of the people populating the territory, regardless of their nationalities.

Third—the current administrative units can be divided up for restructuring (strictly according to the boundaries of the republics, krays, oblasts, and okrugs) or, conversely, they can be combined.

Fourth—the administrative units formed as a result of restructuring have the same status in all union republics, regardless of their territory, population, location or ethnic composition (the capital district is an exception). The union republics are unitary states that are joined together with equal rights into a federation.

If one accepts these postulated the first thing that will happen as if of its own accord will be that the majority of autonomous republics will achieve the status of union republics. And this, in my view, is fair, for they have long had everything necessary for this, including their own governments and fairly developed economies. True, this process almost inevitably (such is human nature) come up against the ambitions of the leadership and some of the population of the union republics, but here is an opportunity to check for democratism. If you recognize your own right to conduct your affairs independently, why refuse to give this right to others? And even the circumstance that there are many Russians living in the Mordovian ASSR [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic] and, say, Uzbeks living in the Kara-Kalpak ASSR can mean nothing at all because neither Russia nor Uzbekistan is populated exclusively "indigenous" ethnic groups. If Uzbeks are not harmed in Russia, then Russians will not be harmed in Mordovia; this is the law of communal living.

The second thing that might happen as a result of referendums is the transformation of Russia. The current giant, tormented by excessive centralism, poor management, and inordinate commitments to other republics could, while retaining its political unity and statehood, be divided into several economic regions that are self-governed according to the principle of regional economic accountability [khozraschet]. It could be, for example: European Russian (almost 60 million people), the Urals (15 million), Western Siberia (12 million), Eastern Siberia (6.5 million), the Far East (about the same amount), Transbaykal (.5 million), and Moscow and Moscow Oblast (another 16 million).

The economic potential of these regions is so great and significant and the natural conditions are so varied that they could even be called "economic republics" and divided into reasonable units with their own political rights. It is clear that each such "economic republic" could have its own academy of sciences, its own cultural and administrative center (capital, if you will), and specialties in federal division of labor. They would be joined together not only by a common government but also by language, culture, and historical roots.

Finally, even with the strictest adherence to the postulates, there arise everywhere "special cases" which we do not know how to handle today. In this article I shall not even begin to discuss the Transcaucasus, for example. And can territories like the Khanty-Mansiyskiy Autonomous Okrug be considered ethnic when the ethnic groups there have no hope of ever becoming the majority? And can Evenkia ever lead an independent political life when only about 22,000 people are scattered over a gigantic area? And where are the Germans who are achieving autonomy going to settle, and what should we do with the Crimean Tatars and the Meskhetian Turks? Questions, questions...

But in order to get an idea of the new image, the new possibilities of the state, it is enough to do a mental experiment which binds nobody to anything. I sat down with a calculator and some reference materials and a map of the administrative division of the USSR and obtained what seem to me to be some curious results. (In order to avoid confusion I shall name the so-called "new republics," including economic regions of Russia, according to their geographic or national indicator. In order not to offend anyone, I shall give them in the order—as has always been done—of the size of their population). And so:

1. EUROPEAN RUSSIA (58.8 million people; capital—Leningrad).

Moscow Okrug (15.4 million, Moscow).

Northern Caucasus, 11.3 million—Krasnodar Kray, not including Adgey AO [Autonomous Oblast]; Stavropol Kray, not including Karachayevo-Cherkess, Rostov Oblast.

Central Russia, 11 million—Bryansk, Smolensk, Kaluga, Tula, Ryazan, Lipetsk, Ivanovo, and Vladimir oblasts.

Povolzhye, 10.8 million—Kubyshev, Saratov, Ulyanov, Volgograd, and Astrakhan oblasts.

Northeast Russia, 10.5 million—Vologda, Yaroslav, Kostroma, Gorkiy, and Kirov oblasts; Arkhangelsk Oblast, not including the Nenetsk AO.

Western Russia, 9.3 million—Leningrad, Novgorod, Pskov, and Kalinin oblasts.

Southern Russia, 8.8 million—Kursk, Orel, Belgorod, Voronezh, Tambov, and Penza oblasts.

2. THE UKRAINE (51.2 million people; capital—Kiev).

3. UZBEKISTAN (18 million, Tashkent, not including Kara-Kalpak ASSR).

4. KAZAKHSTAN (16.2 million, Alma-Ata).

5. URAL (14.5 million, Sverdlovsk). Perm (not including Komi-Permyak AO), Chelyabinsk, Sverdlovsk, Kurgan, and Orenburg oblasts.

6. WESTERN SIBERIA (10.3 million, Novosibirsk). Novosibirsk, Kemerovo, Omsk, Tomsk, and Tyumen (not including Khanti-Mansiysk AO and Yamalo-Nenetsk AO) oblasts.

7. BELORUSSIA (10.1 million, Minsk).

8. AZERBAIJAN (6.8 million, Baku). (I shall say nothing about autonomy here in order not to pour kerosene onto the fire).

9. FAR EAST (6 million, Khabarovsk). Maritime and Khabarovsk krays (not including Jewish AO); Sakhalin and Amur oblasts; Magadan, not including Chukotsk AO.

10. EASTERN SIBERIA (93.5 million, Krasnoyarsk). Krasnoyarsk Kray, not including Khakass AO; Dolgano-Nenetsk and Evenki AO's; and Irkutsk Oblast, not including Ust-Ordynskiy Buryat AO.

11. GEORGIA (5.3 million, Tbilisi.) (Again I shall say nothing about autonomy for the same reason).

12. TAJIKISTAN (4.6 million, Dushanbe, not including Gorno-Badakhshan AO).

13. MOLDAVIA (4.2 million, Kishinev).

14. KIRGIZIA (4.1 million, Frunze).

15. BASHKIRIA (3.9 million, Ufa).

16. LITHUANIA (3.7 million, Vilnius).

17. TATARIA (3.6 million, Kazan).

18. ARMENIA (3.4 million, Yerevan).

19. TURKMENIA (3.3 million, Ashkhabad).

20. ALTAY (2.8 million, Barnaul). Altay Kray, Gorno-Altay AO.

21. LATVIA (2.7 million, Riga).

22. KARELIA (1.9 million, Petrozavodsk). Karelian ASSR, Murmansk Oblast.

23. DAGESTAN (1.8 million, Makhachkala).

24. UDMURTIA (1.6 million, Izhevsk).

25. ESTONIA (1.6 million, Tallinn).

26. CHUVASHIA (1.4 million, Cheboksary).

27. KOMI (1.4 million, Syktyvkar). Komi ASSR, Komi-Permyak AO.

28. TRANSBAYKAL (1.3 million, Chita). Chita Oblast, not including Aga Buryat AO.

29. CHECHENO-INGUSHETIA (1.2 million, Groznyy).

30. BURYATIA (1.2 million, Ulan Ude). Buryat ASSR, Ust Orda, and Aga Buryat AO's.

31. KARA-KALPAKIA (1.1 million, Nukus).

32. KHANTI-MANSIYSK REPUBLIC (1.1 million, Khanti-Mansiysk).

33. YAKUTIA (1 million, Yakutsk).

34. MORDOVIA (1 million, Saransk).

35. BALTIC REPUBLIC (0.8 million, Kaliningrad).

36. MARY (0.8 million, Yoshkar-Ola).

37. KABARDINO-BALKARIA (0.7 million, Nalchik).

38. OSETIA (0.6 million, Ordzhonikidze).

39. KHAKASIA (0.6 million, Abakan).

40. NENETSK REPUBLIC (0.6 million, Naryan-Mar). Nenetsk, Yamalo-Nenetsk, and Dolgano-Nenetsk AO's.

41. KAMCHATKA (0.4 million, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy). Kamchatka oblast, not including Koryak national okrug.

42. ADYGE (0.4 million, Maykop).

43. KARACHAYEVO-CHERKESSIA (0.4 million, Cherkessk).

44. KALMYKIA (0.3 million, Elista).

45. TUVA (0.3 million, Kyzyl).

46. GORNO-BADAKHSHAN (0.2 million, Khorog).

47. CHUKHOTKA (0.2 million, Anadyr).

48. JEWISH REPUBLIC (0.2 million, Birobidzhan).

49. KORYAK REPUBLIC (0.04 million, Palana).

50. EVENKIA (0.02 million, Tura).

I should like to emphasize once again that this list was compiled by a nonspecialist and is very, very conventional. What it might turn out to be in reality depends only on the will of the peoples populating the territory. But approximate as it is, this list gives us a picture that is extremely different from the one to which we have become accustomed.

What are its main peculiarities? Two large territories with more than 50 million people appear and seem to balance one another out—European Russian and the Ukraine. Most of the country's industrial potential and the largest scientific, training, and cultural centers are concentrated here. It is clear that they will have to take on the role of a double locomotive for the time of the economic reform, and until it is complete they will be able to develop high technology on a larger scale than others; and on the basis of the achievements of scientific and technical progress, they will be able to raise the standard of living of their population more rapidly.

Nine entire republics plus the capital district will comprise a group of average territories with a population of from 5 to 20 million. These are Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, the Urals, Western Siberia, Belorussia, Azerbaijan, Eastern Siberia, the Far East, and Georgia. With little more than one-third of the country's population, they have both developed industry and a food base and their own supplies of all kinds of resources. What they do not have up to this point is a reasonable economic policy, and what they have always had too much of is a dictatorship from the center. There is no need to say how important it is for their normal development to combine independence and mutual assistance.

Most of the territories—23 of them—will end up in the "small" group, with populations of 1 to 5 million. One-fifth of the country's population lives here. And this group includes eight current union republics with experience in their own state management and also 12 ASSR's that are practically ready for independent life. This group, of which Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia are the most politically active, because of its relatively large population and proximity of interests, can form an extremely influential bloc in the Supreme Soviet. These territories do not have any special natural resources so it is even more important for them to concentrate on increasing their technological capabilities (both in industry and in agriculture), on problems of national culture, on increasing the qualifications of personnel, and on protecting the environment so that mainly through these factors they can improve the quality of life of their population.

Finally, there are the "small" republics with less than a million people. There could also be quite a few of them, according to my conventional list, and there could be even more if the Soviet Germans, Koreans, Crimean Tatars, and other wandering ethnic groups were given autonomy. They total "only" 7 million people, but it is important that on these two-tenths of the territories many small ethnic groups are given real civil rights equal with those of all others. They can communicate directly—without higher intermediaries—with any other republic and with the center. They can control their own natural resources and protect them from being wasted by the departments—through the Supreme Soviet. They receive their fair share from the activity of union enterprises on their territory and are able to construct real capitals instead of nominal-conventional ones.

It is also important that in this group it would be possible to resolve both current future conflicts of a national type.

Finally, I must especially discuss Moscow and Moscow Oblast. Only Moscow has a ready-made communications network with the entire territory of the union and the outside world, and today it is the only city capable of accommodating federal organs and providing tolerable conditions for their work. But Moscow is also the capital of Russia. How is it to combine the functions of the "heart" of one of the republics and the federal center without this being perceived as a dictatorship of a large republic over small ones? This possibility exists, it seems to me, if Moscow transfers to the regions the functions of economic control of the life of Russia and retains the leading political organs of the republic as a whole. At the same time, as the center of the federation, on the cultural plane the Moscow district should be equally open to all ethnic formations in the country.

But let us interrupt our fantasy and return to the everyday life of perestroyka. And one of the particular parts of everyday life that keeps breaking through first in one republic and then in another—not excluding even the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic]—are proposals to secede from the union and begin to solve their own problems separately. Those who propose this are confident that, even though they will still have their own problems, life will become much happier and more interesting, like a man who has been set free after a long and not very happy marriage. But those who make this demand forget that the labor of our forefathers, fathers, and even the current generation was invested in the economy of the entire country and not in individual republics, and the children of this marriage of many years consider their homeland to be the country from sea to sea, and not individual landscapes. Digressing for a moment, let us say that California—the mightiest of the states, where the leading branches of industry and science are concentrated, where an exemplary agriculture business has been created, where the gross output is more than that of any European state—were suddenly to announce that it was going its own separate way. The states united us by force in the past century and now they are dictating laws and taxes. We have the democratic right to live independently and not to pay a tribute for federal needs that have nothing to do with us, and to trade freely—with you, with Japan, with whomever we wish. What would happen the next day? Can there be any doubt? Of course not: There would be tanks at every crossroad. And not because America is an undemocratic country. It is simply that the labor of all America has been invested in the current well-being of California, and no state will be allowed to forget that.

Nonetheless, in our country the idea of secession is seething in the minds of informal group leaders. And in the social consciousness that is still somewhat evenhanded, the natural counterbalance to this destructive idea is the gigantic monolith of the RSFSR which, it seems, will not falter and will be able to cool off the hotheads.

Here we are trying not to note that bureaucratic centralism harmed no other republic as much as it did the Russian Federation, and it could not have been any other way. The immense distances, the immense number of administrative units and economic objects, and at the same time the worst communications network, and natural storehouses from which it was possible to take in order to make up for the lack of talent of the managers, and in addition to all this the constant concern of the center for the affairs of other republics and the state as a whole—a catastrophic combination, is it not? And today we must admit that the RSFSR does not exist as a strong unified whole subordinate to a single administration, and it never has existed as such. And this is not simply a matter of dozens of autonomous national units on its territory. The Russians, no less than other ethnic groups in the union, have expressed regional interests that can best be protected only by self-control of the region. There is no doubt that several of the "economic republics" included in the Republic of Russia could be controlled rationally, flexibly, and effectively from their own capitals and could become more solid cornerstones of the entire country's economy than the loose conglomerate we have today, which is eternally an outcast even from itself.

As concerns its role as the guarantor of the stability of the USSR, it seems to me that today it is not the size of the centrally controlled expanses that are the real guarantee, but instead the basic law, to which we have attached so little significance until recently. Is it not time to revise in the Constitution the formula "the right to free departure from the USSR," which is so patently absurd from the standpoint of state interests? Perhaps we should discuss together the ambiguous situation in which we have all ended up because of this formula and reject it, replacing it with a tested and reliable principle of federation? It seems to me that those who energetically insist on the "right to free departure" could realize this right during the course of perestroyka—of course, with the condition that there be a consensus of the population of the republics in favor of the "right"—and then the recognized principle of federation of the dozens of state formations with equal rights would be an unbreakable monolith in which there would not be various categories of peoples, and the overall goal would be freedom of development of each person both in his historical homeland and in any other part of the country.

...As for the "obkom pyramid," while not having increased numerically by a single iota, after perestroyka it would look a lot less like this Pharaoh's figure. It would be transformed practically into a conference of about 50 central committees of national communist parties whose work, in keeping with the principle of democratic centralism, would be guided by the CPSU Central Committee. Is someone disturbed by the notion of a Central Committee of the Communist Party of Dagestan? But why, if the smaller communist party of the Estonian SSR can exist and function successfully? Once we have entered on the path of the formation of national party organizations, the Communist Party of Tuva also has a right to exist, with an appropriately sized apparatus, of course. But you will agree that there will be a qualitative change in the leading role of the CPSU in the life of the new federation when at the conference table we see equally powerful first secretaries of central committees of Lithuania, Dagestan, Chuvashia, the Ukraine, Russia...

Prosecutor Interviewed on Crime 'Emergency'

PM1508142189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
12 Aug 89 First Edition pp 1, 3

[Interview with USSR General Prosecutor A.Ya. Sukharev by own correspondents A. Chernenko and A. Chernyak: "United Front Against Crime"; date and place of interview not given]

[Text] [Correspondents] Aleksandr Yakovlevich, several days ago the USSR Supreme Soviet adopted a resolution on radical measures to combat crime. We will be frank, everyone had been expecting this document. An extremely worrying situation is taking shape with regard to crime. It is no accident that the servants of Themis are being increasingly criticized. Some people criticize them because law enforcement organs are unable to protect Soviet citizens, while others criticize them for excessive brutality... Although, if the official statistics are anything to go by, there really seems to be a steady, even irritating increase in the indulgence shown toward smart operators in the black economy, speculators, and even outright criminals. "One gets the strange impression that our laws have no effect at all. The situation has reached the point where it is not safe to go out into the streets at night. Yet we have the biggest militia detachment and a whole army of prosecutors and judges," a reader from Moscow, V. Korotin, wrote to us.

[Sukharev] Yes, we are now witnessing an emergency with regard to crime. That is what prompted the resolution. It also explains the promptness with which special programs are being approved and temporary committees set up to fight crime. We recently held a special sitting of the USSR Prosecutor's Office Collegium... In short, society is declaring war on crime. Crime rates have risen very rapidly in the last 2 years. For the first time in the last 20 years, more than 1 million crimes were registered in the 1st 6 months this year—that is 32 percent more than a year ago.

The rise in crime has affected all the republics without exception. It has been particularly significant in the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR], where it has risen by 88 percent; there has been an increase of 57 percent in the Lithuanian SSR, 49 percent in the Armenian SSR, and 45 percent in the Kirghiz SSR. There has been a rise of almost 40 percent in the number of serious crimes committed—169,500 in all. There has been a noticeable increase in the number of premeditated murders, rapes, burglaries, robberies with violence, robberies, and thefts from apartments.

Crime is growing among young people and teenagers. Last year almost 18,000 members of youth groups who had staged approximately 2,000 fights, brawls, rampages, and other breaches of public order were on the books of internal affairs organs. One cannot fail to see the dangerous increase in mercenary crime, which accounts for 57 percent of all registered crime and largely determines the stability of criminal groups within the economy and the criminal world...

[Correspondents] These are horrifying statistics. But, excuse us for asking, Aleksandr Yakovlevich, what are prosecutors doing about all this? It seems that our laws are indeed not working...

[Sukharev] There is now no task more important for us than to step up the efforts of all law enforcement organs, and the prosecutor's office in particular. But the prosecutor's office is not going to get very far on its own. So, as a professional, I believe that the creation of committees to fight crime, as defined by the Supreme Soviet resolution, is extremely timely. We must look into everything in detail and find the roots, the causes of crime. Why should the healthy process of people throwing off their social inhibitions sometimes develop into anarchy and massive riots? Why should economic initiative develop into parasitism in its many guises and become intertwined with the world of crime? I can give you the reasons which lie on the surface, so to speak. These and other phenomena arising today require new approaches. In this respect it is extremely important to realize that serious crimes are increasing in number but they grow from a vast mass of "ordinary" crimes and transgressions. This mass, which actively feeds serious crime and is responsible for the nervy state of our society, has essentially become "ownerless"—both from the point of view of analysis and from the standpoint of practice and monitoring from above.

The stratum of socially neglected people—alcoholics, spongers, vagrants, and prostitutes—is growing in our country. There are hundreds of thousands of them! More than 20,000 people recently released from places of imprisonment and not in employment have swelled the ranks of this dubious company. Last year tens of thousands of teenagers were out of work. There are 4.6 million registered chronic alcoholics. The whole of this vast mass of people carries the germ of criminality.

[Correspondents] It seems that an extensive subculture from which future dangerous criminals are recruited has arisen, but we do not properly know this subculture and the measures we are taking are inadequate to combat this danger. An example is the prostitutes you just mentioned. They create a strong criminal environment around them... Pimps, racketeers, and foreign currency speculators.... Society merely looks on or mildly criticizes them in the press—but that's all. And this is at a time when radical changes have been made in the structure of punishment, when at least half of yesterday's candidates for correctional labor establishments are roaming free. It is precisely now that particular adherence to principle and vigilance on the part of prosecutors is needed.

[Sukharev] You are right, in my opinion, to single out this element of the problem. I will add that there are many symptoms of endless connivance on the basis that crimes are slight, and this attitude has begun to extend not only to young people who have stumbled but sometimes even to dangerous criminals and recidivists. But an extreme situation requires decisive measures and use of the force of law. Law enforcement organs must find an adequate response to the parasitic and criminal elements and make the working people feel that they are capable of protecting law and order in our cities and citizens' life, health, and property from criminal encroachments.

My perception of the situation is this: All available legal levers of monitoring and responsibility must be tightened up until such time as the basic preventive reserves which, I am sure, will be formed on the basis of the statewide program for combating crime can be brought into play. In this respect extensive use should be made of glasnost and public opinion.

Here is a point we should think about: Why is it that tens, even hundreds of different movements have sprung up in our country but not even one of them aims to cleanse our society of criminal scum? The reason is that we as yet do not fully appreciate the true scale of the problem.

[Correspondents] Yes, you are right, but you must agree that the following question is also to the point: Is the present wave of crime not connected with the low clearup rate of crimes?

[Sukharev] It is indeed, and very closely connected too. According to the statistics, the crime clearup rate is noticeably deteriorating. Whereas in 1978 a total of 600 murders were not cleared up, the number last year was 1,558; the figures for grievous bodily harm are 2,600 and

6,450 respectively; and 4,335 and 23,000 for robberies. The picture is the same for other crimes. In the last 6 months, the number of crimes not cleared up by trial has doubled: from 556 to 941 murders, 2,273 to 5,592 cases of grievous bodily harm, 673 to 1,069 rapes, 1,160 to 2,885 robberies with violence, and 93,000 to 196,000 thefts of personal property. The duration and quality of investigation are noticeably deteriorating and the number of cases dropped or referred by judges for further investigation is increasing. It is this poor clearup rate and criminals' impunity that make people lose faith.

The fact that the generally modest criminal investigation apparatus is ill-prepared to cope with the surging crime rate is now taking its toll. It is also obvious that, in the conditions of growth in serious crime, particularly mercenary, violent crime, it is important to ensure self-discipline, the correct disposition of forces, and efficient, coordinated work on the part of investigative operation services and the investigative apparatus, as well as concentration of efforts. But this is precisely what is lacking. What is more, a decline in professionalism has been observed.

We recently joined forces with the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD] to investigate the theft clearup rate in Altay Kray. One in two of these crimes is never cleared up there. And what did we find? In one in five or one in six cases... there was no inspection at all of the scene of the crime; in one in three cases, no evidence of the crime was established or removed; and half of all evidence that was found was rendered useless for investigation as a result of inept or careless treatment. What is more, in one-third of all cases, the investigators had not bothered to send material evidence for expert analysis. The entire "investigation" often amounted to nothing more than questioning the injured party and two or three witnesses, and after 2 months a decision would be made to stop all proceedings. This would sometimes happen under the indifferent gaze of the leaders of internal affairs organs' investigations departments and even prosecutors themselves. Similar shortcomings have been brought to light in Moscow, Tomsk, and Donetsk Oblasts, Stavropol Kray, and many other regions.

[Correspondents] In other words, the root of the evil is still largely to be found in one of our country's chronic ills: negligence, laziness on the part of professionals, and a lack of discipline?

[Sukharev] Yes. Everything is decided by the attitude to the work in hand, professionalism, and labor organization. With the same kind of workload as is found throughout the country as a whole, all (!) premeditated murder cases have been cleared up in Lipetsk and Yaroslavl Oblasts. But it would be dangerous to use these examples to gloss over the general situation. The situation is extremely worrying as a whole. This decline is particularly apparent in the struggle against organized crime. Its social parameters and corrupting influence have been mentioned more than once from various tribunes. I will give you just two figures: This year alone, a total of 1,320 groups and bandit formations which have committed almost 9,000 dangerous crimes have been exposed. A whole stratum of unemployed [nerabotayushchiy] people engaged in speculation and the acquisition of unearned income is feeding off the country's present difficulties. The population is annoyed by the legal abuses by members of cooperatives. However, there has recently been a sharp decline in the vigor with which cases of embezzlement, bribe-taking, and official and economic crimes are brought to light. The figures are so appalling that, in some regions, you might as well say that the struggle against these dangerous crimes has been wound up. This has been seized on by the criminal world, whose actions are becoming more brazen and coordinated. Many prosecutors turn a blind eye to the inactivity of organs responsible for combating the embezzlement of socialist property and speculation, play it safe, and avoid these cases, the majority of which are dropped. There is no need to prove that this policy does not stand up to any criticism.

[Correspondents] For our part, we would like to add that instances of attacks on sentry and militia posts and military depots have become more frequent. Even our own editorial statistics show that in the last 6 months there have been more than 400 thefts of weapons and ammunition. The availability of weapons in the criminal world creates a real threat that the situation will be destabilized in entire regions. Something must be done, Aleksandr Yakovlevich.

[Sukharev] There was an extremely exacting discussion about this at a recent session of the USSR Prosecutor's Office Collegium. We instructed the prosecutors of republics, krays, and oblasts and also military and special prosecutors to take urgent, exhaustive measures to impose order in the storage and use of weapons and to eradicate negligence and irresponsibility on the part of officials. Many of those guilty of these things have been found and strict proceedings have been taken against them. But it is still important to tighten up the legislative rear as quickly as possible in order to combat organized crime. Draft amendments and additions to criminal legislation and criminal procedure are now ready; these aim to increase liability for committing crimes as an organized group and to broaden the sources of evidence, particularly the use of video and photographic material and sound recordings obtained in the course of investigative operation measures, naturally while ensuring observance of the necessary procedural guarantees.

[Correspondents] New laws are obviously needed, but, after all, some prosecutors essentially ignore the ones which already exist. What is this: negligence or an inability to handle the sector for which they are responsible?

[Sukharev] Unfortunately, there are quite a number of factors involved here. I do not think that exactingness has declined everywhere, although there are undoubtedly signs pointing to this—alarming signs too. In the last 2 years, 453 of our personnel, including 69 city and rayon prosecutors, have been dismissed for failing to meet requirements and prejudicial action.

But what I find a distressing thought is this: **In the same period, 15 percent of all operational personnel were dismissed from the prosecutor's office!** What is more, many fine, experienced, highly skilled specialists have left of their own accord. Now more than 20 percent of personnel have less than 3 years' experience of working in prosecutor's office organs. There are a large number of vacancies... The work regime, colossal workload, and insufficient material interest also take their toll, of course. (We hope that the USSR Supreme Soviet decision in this area will soon be implemented.) But, obviously, the natural complexities and paradoxes of restructuring processes in the field of law also have some effect. In this situation we do not always point people in the right direction in good time and sometimes fall down on giving them the help they need. Against the background of the unprecedented novelty of legal situations, people who adhere to the old stereotypes feel uncomfortable, while, on the other hand, opportunists, various loudmouths and time-servers sometimes appear....

For example, the problem connected with interethnic relations has presented us with a situation where some prosecutors err on the side of parochialism, shy away from public dialogue with extremists, and avoid resolving serious issues. We intend to educate these misguided people, but I can also assure you that we will be concerned with the purity of prosecutor's office personnel.

[Correspondents] So, in order to understand the whole range of problems which beset the general prosecutor, we must "put ourselves in his shoes," so to speak.... But, as we are not in a position to do this, could you please tell us what worries Sukharev the person? What kind of things pain him?

[Sukharev] Any human misfortune I encounter is a source of pain to me. But I feel particularly bitter when people are killed. I feel bitter at heart when I see tragedies caused by interethnic conflict. Conflicts of this nature have already carried off scores of human lives. More than 1,500 burned, devastated homes stand empty. There are almost 230,000 refugees in the Transcaucasus alone!

I am also worried by the existence of well organized, sometimes armed hooligan groupings in many areas. They create a real danger that they will be exploited by extremist, nationalist elements as a strike force for provoking massive riots and complicating the general situation in various regions. We are currently investigating how, during the events in Abkhazia, for example, extremists acquired a substantial arsenal of weapons without a single (!) shot being fired by the guards. Our investigations group is scrupulously checking out this strange "resistance" offered by the guards to the rampaging thieves.

[Correspondents] Aleksandr Yakovlevich, self-seekers, smart operators, plunderers, and extremists are now generally very active. What is this, an inevitable "offshoot" of perestroyka? And, if so, how is it to be neutralized? How are we to instill in people a need to work without looking over their shoulder, conscientiously, without passing by evil and violence?... The militia complain of poor legal protection and prosecutors complain of pressure from politicians. Is it a vicious circle?

[Sukharev] Well, the very heart of the recent resolution is concerned with resolving these problems. But legislative guarantees are important in this respect. **We must really ensure that prosecutors have a legal status whereby no official—either local or higher up, politicians included—can bring any influence to bear on the legality of their actions.**

We will be frank: Prosecutors today are not sufficiently steadfast and principled. The tragedy near Ufa, which claimed hundreds of lives, is still fresh in our memories. What has been brought to light, other than scandalous irresponsibility and bad management? On 30 August 1988, 9 months before the catastrophe, Senior Investigator Smirnov of the Tyumen Oblast Prosecutor's Office sent an official representation to Batayev, chief of the Urals and Siberia Main Petroleum Product Pipelines in Ufa, informing him of the disgraceful quality of construction work on the oil pipeline, serious imperfections, and shoddy workmanship which had been brought to light during the investigation of a criminal case. No reply to this representation was forthcoming. Eight months later, the investigator sent a reminder—again, silence. Where was the principled attitude that should have been shown by the oblast prosecutor's office? Why did the criminal case that was instituted fail to reach the courts; why was the case dropped? The letter from the investigator to the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Prosecutor's Office—in which he proposed that this question be raised with the USSR Council of Ministers in order to force the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry and the Ministry of Construction of Petroleum and Gas Industry Enterprises to urgently carry out work to thoroughly check the quality of the construction and assembly work and retest the entire pipeline—was also hushed up. There is only one answer to all these questions: The leadership of the oblast prosecutor's office proved incapable of withstanding departmental and local pressure and standing up to those people who, 4 years earlier, had commissioned the substandard pipeline with pomp and ceremony and then dodged the elimination of the defects. Insight and the necessary measures came too late, when human life had already been lost.

[Correspondents] We are familiar with the following statistics: Only 8 cases of shoddy output have been brought before the courts in the past year, along with 84 cases of overreporting. Yet this is in a country where in industry alone losses from shoddy workmanship amount to something in the region of R1 billion every year! Here are some extracts from your speech to the collegium: "According to information provided by the USSR State Committee for Statistics, stocks of old, unmarketable goods are swelled each year with goods worth many millions of rubles. Overreporting is still rife in construction, transport, and agriculture. With the obvious connivance of the prosecutor's office, even statistical organs have ceased to struggle against deception of the state. In the Kirghiz SSR, Kazakh SSR, and Ukrainian SSR State Committee for Statistics organs have failed to implement 600 economic sanctions regarding the exclusion of overreporting to the tune of more than R30 million from their own reports. Only one in five documents on malicious violations is conveyed to prosecutor's office organs. In Krasnodar Kray and Kemerovo Oblast, documents on very serious distortions in state reports and on overreporting have not been conveyed to the public prosecutor at all." What supervision of legality by monitoring organs is there to speak of? Is this not the main source of criminal activity? Is this not the real breeding ground of our own homegrown mafia? And of the black economy?

[Sukharev] I did actually talk about this at the beginning of our conversation, stating the need for a new approach to the methods and aims of analysis. The time has come to thoroughly generalize the practice of applying laws in the struggle against economic crimes and to "sound them out" in relation to organized crime and the shadow economy. This cannot be done in a single cavalry charge because these ties have been established over the years and we did not clearly understand the nature of their formation, believing them to be spontaneous.

This also applies to cooperatives, where there has been a sharp tilt toward serving enterprises rather than the population. The number of cooperatives acting as middlemen has trebled! The practice of buying up goods in bulk from the retail trade network and reselling products and goods that are in short supply has become widespread. Trends detrimental to the state of money circulation are becoming increasingly strong in cooperatives. The exploitation of others' labor, even child labor, has begun in some areas.

All this increases social tension and arouses indignation among honest workers. Can the prosecutor's office really influence things in this respect? To a certain extent—yes! But, in my opinion, there are more questions of politics here. The fact of the matter is that legal approaches in the past were distinguished by their strongly metaphysical nature. While tackling something new (or something old which has been well forgotten—take cooperatives, for example), we have sometimes backed it up with normatives and law enforcement measures without linking it to the general economic and legal structure. Hence the painful loose ends and gaps which have been immediately filled by cunning thieves and criminal elements. On the other hand, they have given some servants of Themis the possibility for maneuver—depending on the situation at the time. That is why the very concept of a rule-of-law state is not to the benefit of any of these forces. And that is also why we are making such painful progress in overcoming stagnation and not doing so as fast as we would have liked. But I am an optimist and believe that dynamism in our society is growing and that the law is becoming firmly established in our lives as a universal value and guarantor of perestroyka.

Justice Minister Cites Crime Statistics

LD1408210389 Moscow TASS in English 2045 GMT 14 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 14 TASS—It is impermissible and highly dangerous to weaken the effort to combat crime in the USSR in present-day conditions and there is no room for disunity and lack of organisation in this matter, said Veniamin Yakovlev, USSR minister of justice.

He told a news conference here today that 1,103,000 crimes were registered in the first half of 1989, an increase of 32.1 percent on the same period last year. The number of grievous crimes went up by 40 percent. As many as 350,000 crimes remained unexposed. Altogether 328.4 thousand persons have been convicted, 7.6 percent less than in the first half of last year. This discrepancy in the dynamic of the crime rate and criminal record is explained by the fact that investigation bodies freed from criminal responsibility 223.8 thousand persons. The number of persons against whom criminal proceedings were instituted decreased as cases of less dangerous crimes were dropped. At the same time this index increased as regards persons who committed grievous crimes against the individual or encroached on private and state property with the recourse to violence.

Answering the question of TASS correspondent Aleksandr Borisov about the main tasks of provisional committees for combating crime whose formation is envisaged by the recently adopted decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet about stepping up the effort to combat crime, Veniamin Yakovlev said that the committees are to coordinate and organise this effort in localities. It is necessary to avoid unjustifiable misapplication, and moreover violation of laws, to enhance cohesion and organisation of law enforcement bodies in order to deal a telling blow at criminal elements that are destabilising society, the USSR minister of justice said.

Militia Reports Rise in Juvenile Crime

LD1408140689 Moscow TASS in English 1136 GMT 14 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 14 TASS—Every fourth crime in Moscow is committed by teenagers. Juvenile delinquency shot up by 87.1 per cent in the seven months of 1989 as against a similar period of 1988. The total number of juvenile crimes in the city reached 2,842 (judging by completed criminal proceedings). These grim statistics were revealed to TASS at the Moscow main militia department.

In the opinion of Ruerfa Danilova, head of the investigation section of the main militia department of Moscow, the rapid growth of the number of grave crimes committed by teenagers demands special concern. Their number went up by 107.9 per cent. It is also noteworthy that juvenile delinquency previously did not include embezzlement on a large scale, while at present one comes across such crimes more and more often. This involves mostly computer theft. Most of the crimes committed by teenagers are group crimes. Criminal groups sometimes include dozens of youths.

Juvenile recidivism is a source of tremendous concern. According to Soviet legislation, teenagers cannot be regarded as recidivists even if they commit many crimes, including grave ones. However, studies show that ten years ago, 60 per cent of especially dangerous adult recidivists kept in places of detention started their criminal activities when they were under age, while now the figure is 90 per cent. This is why it is impossible to eradicate crime, primarily recidivism, without resolving the problem of juvenile delinquency.

Speaking of ways to resolve the problem of juvenile delinquency, Danilova pointed to the importance of the resolution on stepping up crime control adopted recently by the USSR Supreme Soviet. In her opinion, along with the activisation of work of law-enforcement agencies, it will intensify the activities of more than 40 Moscow organisations whose task is to educate teenagers and prevent them from committing crimes.

Crime Wave Said To Require Heavier Sentencing

18001489 Moscow TRUD in Russian 3 Aug 89 p 3

[Article by correspondents Ya. Kozin and N. Mokrishchev from Donetsk: "'Figura's' Victims, or Why We Are at Times Defenseless Against the Hooligans and Bandits"]

[Text] **A man wound up in the hospital after trying to resist a group of juveniles screaming in the language of the dregs of society, a language in which the "nicest" sounds are the pauses. He survived. It could be said that he was lucky, and that someone else his age was not. And about the unlucky one, in place of an obituary there were a few terse lines in the newspaper: "At one station, several intoxicated youths boarded the train from Mariupol to Donetsk... The group got off the train at the Rutchenkovo station, in search of new adventures. In a deserted place, the throng beat up a young Donetsk man, who died from his wounds." We recently read in the newspaper about 15-year-old girls who are killers. It is difficult even to imagine how they first strangled their victim, then took a knife to him, and finally doused him with gasoline and set fire to him....**

What do the impassive statistics say? In a number of other crimes across the country there were 37,191 cases where serious bodily harm was inflicted, and 16,710 people were killed. Think about this figure: It exceeds the number of our soldiers killed during all the years of the war in Afghanistan.

To a lesser extent, against this sad background, the position of those who actively support softening criminal legislation seems strange. These, incidentally, are the theorist-lawyers. They try to persuade that only the "humane approach," the "inevitability of punishment," and "prevention of lawbreaking" can return order to our cities' streets, and that, in their opinion, this will be the most notable step on the path toward a rule-of-law state. They convince us, the way they always have, that if we are patient everything will work out in time, the criminals will be caught, they will acknowledge the crime, and they will obey the law as well as normal people. We do not contest that: It is possible that they will be so, sometime. But until that time, they will spill no small amount of innocent blood, and abase human dignity an uncounted number of times. We are firmly convinced that given the current level of crime, the orientation of many draft statutes of the foundations of criminal legislation toward reducing punishment is simply impermissible.

The aspiration to evaluate today's anti-law acts and our current level of culture from the heights of a future universal consciousness is, of course, a wonderful thing to do, but not realistic. For those who commit them, reducing the level of punishment for crimes against human life and dignity means the removal of a number of important limiting factors. The draft's supporters appeal to us to be more humane, and save the lost sheep. These appeals are most audible when the discussion concerns the statutes on juveniles' responsibilities for violating the law. One gets the impression that while preparing the draft, its authors envisioned young lawbreakers in the image of Figura from the Gaydar novella, "Timur and His Team." Figura could rough up his victim a bit, and at worst, give him a black eye. In a word, a hooligan of the previous, so to say, sterile form. Apparently, those used to predominate. But now there are different "Figuras" in the yards and on the streets. They are the same age, but the actions are quite different. They are armed not with fists but with feet, and will not waste time with trifles such as blackening eyes—they'll plant a knife in your throat. Today's "Figura" is not rolling around in the grass, but out looking for grass; not stealing apples from a tree, but poppyseed pods from strangers' gardens. And the "teams" no longer belong to the Timurs, but to the Figuras. And what teams they are! Just try to get away from it. While reading the UVD [Internal Affairs Administration] reports, you run into the same thing over and over—a still young, but twice-convicted blockhead is the ringleader of several minors...

There is now more than enough theoretical discussion about the need to not allow society to lose a member who has gone astray. But, in the first place, one may go astray in different ways. To the tune of petty theft in the supermarket, or, let's say, to the tune of human life. And second, isn't it better, as a rule, to think a bit on how to arrange it so society does not lose the normal person, living in a human fashion, and not by the law of the jungle? It's all the same to the handicapped old man, or the girl who has been raped, or the traumatized young mother, whether the abuser is a 40-year old recidivist or a 17-year old who has come of age too soon.

A group of associates from the Kalinin Oblast clinical hospital writes to the editors: "We medical workers frequently encounter those who have suffered at the hands of minors. What these 'children' commit is horrifying! Where do they get such hatred and heartlessness? Juveniles perceive that they may do this with impunity, and their cruelty exceeds all bounds. It is terrifying to walk on the street when it is getting dark. Juveniles wander in groups, gather on stairwell landings, in attics, and basements. Many of them are armed with knives. And you simply don't know what awaits you when you go into a dark entryway. We went into shock when we heard that a humanization of criminal legislation is being prepared. We want to walk freely, without looking over our shoulders, and to be spared the constant fear. At 16 or 17 a kid has his domestic passport, he can work. So can he really not be mature enough to answer for his deeds?"

Incidentally, the main thing is not to wait for the deed, more accurately, the crime, to be committed. And, in addition to other measures, this requires bringing on to the stage the people who are always alongside the potential young offender, his parents. True, they are most frequently not alongside him, but off to the side. We ask about the school, the militia, and society, but we remember the parents last. If they could be made aware that if their son is detained for taking part in a fight, or any other unlawful behavior, they will pay a heavy fine. Perhaps then parents would acquire responsibility, if moral responsibility alone is not enough.

Why is it that now, as we are preoccupied with the creation of a rule-of-law state, we are more troubled by a humane attitude toward criminals, lawbreakers, and their irresponsible parents than by concern for reliably defending man, his personal safety, the security of his home, in a word, society's humane attitude toward its citizens? We are obligated to raise discipline and order in our state. After all, in Donetsk Oblast alone, last year over 1,500 group crimes were committed by minors. This was 60 percent of all the crimes committed. And the level of the rate of crime involving minors is increasing sharply, maintains G. Vasiliyev, Donetsk Oblast deputy procurator. Just "humanize" the situation in the ITK [corrective labor colony] and there you have it, an explosion of new crimes in these institutions; the bandits will take the women who nurse and teach them as hostages. Is it any accident that the conspiratorial ringleaders used young people for their pogroms in Fergana and Novyy Uzen? As soon as the country takes its first steps on the path toward humanizing the situation, felons will be released from the colonies in mass numbers, and then we'll have a cold winter in 89, just like in 53...

Those who support softening criminal legislation cite the "call of time," and the experience of foreign countries. They say that over there they get away without capital punishment, and the articles are not so strict. It that the case? For example, the French public raised the issue of using the death penalty after a series of cruel murders. The majority of New York residents have expressed themselves as being in favor of imposing the death sentence.

And how can anyone not see how many more rights are granted to police in the West to defend the people and themselves. There the policeman is an inviolable individual. He may stop with his nightstick any threatening person who comes within one meter of him, and if that person makes contact, he may fire without warning. Our militia man has been reduced to such a state that he might as well defend just himself. Last year, in Donetsk Oblast alone, there were 178 incidents of resistance to militia personnel, of direct threats to their lives. And the criminals turned out to be right in almost all cases; more accurately, they were "made" to be right....

A golden aphorism of jurisprudence states that "it is better to warn than to correct." Only, what to warn with? Stays of execution? Early releases of known bandits? Reductions for age? But then we would not have to warn ourselves against excess trust and complacency....

Party's Role in Changed Society Outlined

PM2607113389 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jul 89 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Party and Society. Moving Toward Life, Toward People"]

[Text] Schoolchildren nowadays no longer write essays on the broad and, so it was believed, quite easy subject taken from Mayakovskiy: "...Making that most majestic of words—party—shine forth anew." Today people in high and rank-and-file party bodies, committees, and bureaus and in primary organizations and party groups are racking their brains over this burning topic which has been placed on the agenda—and they are doing so not at school desks, not in front of a clean sheet of paper, but in an extremely fast-moving real situation.

Moreover, not only Communists, but all who care about the interests of perestroyka and are worried by the lack of trust in the party which has emerged are seriously concerned about this. And what once so frivolously seemed to be merely a poetic metaphor, something automatically soluble and understandable by even less than zealous schoolchildren or school graduates, is in practice proving to be a most complex practical task for far wiser and more experienced people. Because the subject has been set by life and the "exercise books" are checked not by an indulgent and tractable schoolteacher but literally by life itself.

To march toward life, not hide from it, not avoid complexities and acute situations in society.... That is probably one of the cardinal commandments of the recent CPSU Central Committee conference, the material from which is now certainly being studied, pondered, and discussed within the party and among the people. This commandment—this is a very important point—did not emerge from the tip of a glib pen in the quiet of an office. For all its apparent simplicity and mundaneness, it is the result of a pitilessly truthful analysis of the situation within the party and society and has been literally hammered out in the furnace of arguments and debates that are still not all that familiar a sight at party conferences at such a high level, so to speak. And, judging by initial reactions, by no means everyone unreservedly accepts it and is prepared to implement it.

Well, no one today has readymade schemes and prescriptions, there are and will be no easy solutions. It is necessary to take into account all the diversity of opinions and sentiments existing within society and to be able to involve everyone in the common cause of perestroyka.

It is necessary to seek answers to the questions posed by life while improving the approaches and methods of party activity and realizing the tremendous potential contained within our party—society's political vanguard. And, as was noted at the conference, it would be a delusion to attempt to resolve an exacerbated situation by operating in the old way....

Yes, whatever contemporary issue you take—the party's place in society, its relationship with the soviets, methods of influencing the socioeconomic sphere, and so on, and so forth—not one is being resolved in camera, on familiar lines and well trodden paths. Everything or almost everything has changed today: methods of operation in the economy, people's sentiments, their civic posture, and their approach toward the pressing problems that have long been piling up. And the demands on the party and exactingness toward each Communist have changed accordingly: How do party members justify the credit among the people extended to them at the start of perestroyka?

The 4 years since April 1985 have graphically shown what a huge responsibility the CPSU has assumed, what hopes it has aroused, and what popular forces it has set in motion. Unfortunately, not everyone, let us be blunt, yet clearly realizes that it is not someone's malevolent intention that has placed the party at the center of today's debates. Although, of course, there are ill-wishers, extremists, and those who dislike the socialist ideals upheld by real Communists. But it is not this that is decisively determining the situation.

Our party drew fire upon itself by raising the banner of perestroyka and the revolutionary renewal of society. And therefore [the banner] of the resolute and for many people painful abandonment of the former dogmas and stereotypes and of the edict-based, bureaucratic administrative methods which guaranteed some people both unquestionable power and seemingly immutable prestige. Could the cleansing of our life and the socialist principles and ideals from the distortions of the personality cult times and the routine of stagnation, from formalism and heartlessness, from hypocrisy and lies, have proceeded smoothly and easily? It is not surprising that, as they encounter sharply increased activeness on the part of the masses and the just demands of people who crave the more resolute perestroyka of all spheres of society's life, certain party committees still feel nostalgia for the "good old days" or for strong-arm methods of resolving contradictions. And at the same time, as recent events in the coal-mining regions of the country have shown, not everywhere are they able to find an approach toward people, to understand their needs and demands, and to see that all honest working people both work and live well.

It is no secret that party organizations still often proclaim correct slogans and calls for civic activeness, a principled stand, a sense of being master, and so forth in the old way, just for the sake of effect. But they are at a loss as soon as people respond seriously to the slogans, when the rhetorical flourishes of routine reports and speeches suddenly encounter an answering movement by the masses and their living, real initiative. For instance, where were certain leaders when the miners in the Kuzbass were putting forward their just demands, why did they not uphold working people's common interests in a timely way?

A constant, open source of complaints about party organizations is the impermissibly slow resolution of many urgent socioeconomic problems, the deterioration in the supply of everyday goods, and the disruptions in the work of transport. And though there is someone who specifically answers for each specific matter and for each sector—ministries or departments, local soviet executive committees or economic leaders—the party cannot shirk and is not shirking political responsibility for the situation in the country. Moreover, and this was said with the utmost clarity at the CPSU Central Committee conference, its responsibility is increasing with the increase in the scale and complexity of the transformations that are now under way. And only by consistently implementing the policy of perestroyka and really influencing the improvement of the people's life can the party consolidate its prestige.

"The people are tired of promises and highfalutin slogans," Muscovite A. Ivanov writes to PRAVDA. "They want to see practical results from their leaders' work, their personal contribution to perestroyka. People want deeds and only deeds. But where are the deeds capable of evoking the masses' enthusiasm? As is well known, people cannot live permanently in an atmosphere of negative emotions—that threatens to produce a heart attack. Similar processes also take place with society in conditions of constant shortages—of goods, of the truth about the situation in the country, of social injustice." The Communist poses the question correctly! And while glasnost and truth are increasingly becoming part of our lives, there is still plenty of work to be done to eliminate other shortages.

We believe that this is the right time to recall Lenin's wise words, apparently spoken with special regard to the "current moment": "The crux of the matter now is that the vanguard should not be afraid to work on itself, to remodel itself...." It would be a mistake to reduce this work to remodeling the structure of party organs, their apparatus, and the operating style and methods of leading cadres. Although this, too, is necessary and of undoubted importance. The key link, nevertheless, is the activation of the entire party mass. For our party's role in society and its influence, prestige, and ability to keep hold of the initiative in a very direct and immediate way are determined by the activeness, initiative, and authoritativeness of all the almost 20 million Communists. It is precisely people—workers and rural working people, engineers and scientists, representatives of other detachments of the intelligentsia, in short, everyone who has linked his destiny with the party and who honestly and selflessly serves its great cause—who constitute the CPSU's tremendous, inexhaustible potential, its honor and strength.

To bring this potential into operation and develop it to the utmost is the task of party organizations. And, above all, of primary party organizations, where the success of all undertakings is decided.

And so, toward life—into the struggle, into the whirl of problems, toward people! Only in this way is it possible to achieve the breakthrough that is necessary today and master political methods of activity under conditions of perestroyka. Let there be discussion, argument, and questing. This is a sign of movement, a stimulus for development and the acquisition of new strength. The vanguard must not lag behind. And people must not stand at the head of the movement, as certain people still try to do—this is impossible. If you want to lead others, you must go out in front and be the pioneer.

Official Replaced; Lack of Glasnost Criticized

PM1508153589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Aug 89 Second Edition p 2

[Letter from A. Chernyshov, oblast soviet deputy and CPSU member, under the rubric "From Party Life Department's Mailbag": "Without the People's Parting Words"]

[Text] First in the central press and then in KOMMUNIST, the oblast newspaper, I read a report by the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet Presidium on the appointment of A.A. Khomyakov as deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the RSFSR State Planning Committee. And although the report did not indicate his present position, many people in Saratov realized that the first secretary of the Saratov CPSU Oblast Committee [obkom] was being switched to work in the republic's government.

As before, this news came as a complete surprise to most of the oblast's inhabitants. But I would like to reflect on not this particular appointment, but the system whereby such transfers are made according to a pattern which has become well established over the years: The question is decided by a small group of people, and then all the rest find out after the event.

I found out about the possible transfer to Moscow of the party obkom first secretary a little before the official newspaper reports. From rumors. Despite all the success of glasnost, it is precisely the "grapevine" which is quite frequently the main means of obtaining news. Isn't the reason why it continues to work so intensively because the opinions of society's ordinary members are often disregarded?

A graphic example of what purgatory leading workers have to go through was the confirmation of government members by the USSR Supreme Soviet. But I think a system should be created in which not only deputies but also the country's ordinary citizens can, for example, assess a leader's moral and practical qualities. And if it is a question of the party leader, then the party members of the region where the candidate for the higher post is working or has worked should also have that opportunity.

There has been a lot of talk, particularly recently, that in party and state organs the pernicious practice in the selection and placement of cadres whereby there is virtually a game of musical chairs, access to which is only open to those approved from above, continues to operate as before. And it was and remains extremely difficult for a person with the new, nonstereotyped view of problems to get onto, still less stay on, this "cadre merry-go-round." The result is that we talk about the influx of new forces, but we operate using the old methods.

A.A. Khomyakov is a party worker and oblast soviet deputy. He was recently elected a USSR people's deputy. Probably both the oblast Communists and oblast soviet deputies could say many kind words about his work in our oblast. But I am sure that there would also be suggestions and serious criticism. Our leader avoided all this. How important it is for every senior official to hear the people's parting words and recognition as well. It is quite possible that, given a democratic procedure of consulting the people, the grassroots' conclusion will not always be identical to the opinion from above. All that is needed is for this process to bring together the two sides' positions, rather than distancing them, still less setting them against each other. But to this day everything follows a precise schedule set well in advance, and today people know that a Saratov party obkom plenum will be held in a while and we will learn from the newspapers that "...the plenum released Comrade A.A. Khomyakov from his duties as first secretary of the CPSU Obkom in connection with his reassignment. ...was elected first secretary and member of the bureau of the Saratov party obkom."

The same "Bush telegraph" also informed me about the new candidate for the post of obkom first secretary. So has this question also already been solved?! Only the smallest thing remains to be done—to raise one's hand and approve the proposed candidate. But there is also other information, indicating that multiple-candidate elections will be held. It would be nice to learn of the possible candidates in advance, not via rumors but from an official report. So that everyone could express their opinion both about the person and about the program put forward by him.

[Signed] A. Chernyshov, Oblast soviet deputy and CPSU member, Saratov.

TV Monthly Program for Afghan Veterans Planned

LD1508110889 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0230 GMT 15 Aug 89

[From the "120 Minutes" program]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Today it is 6 months since the end of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. I am sure Mikhail Leshchinskiy is well known to all of us television viewers, he has covered events in Afghanistan for several years from this country. Now he is political observer for Gosteleradio, and as you will probably recall, Mikhail Leshchinskiy conducted a reportage on this historic event, on the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

[Leshchinskiy] [Passage omitted] Gosteleradio has decided to create a special, regular television program for the time being about 1 hour a month, which will be primarily a tribune for the veterans of Afghanistan, where they can appear and speak about all the things that concern them and worry them. This program, in our opinion, should become a kind of organizing center, because what has happened? Our Afghan fraternity and unity has turned out here to be somehow eroded, broken, for the moment. Even at the elections, you know, the Afghan veterans were unable to organize themselves and stand as a single public organization. [passage omitted]

Decree on Taxing Cooperatives Ratified

18001499 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Aug 89 Morning Edition pp 1-2

["Law of the USSR on Ratifying the Decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet 'On Profit Taxes on Cooperatives'"]

[Text] The Supreme Soviet of the USSR resolves:

To ratify the decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet dated 23 February 1989 "On Profit Taxes on Cooperatives" (VEDOMOSTI VERKHOVNOGO SOVETA, 1989, No 9, item 62), rendering it as follows:

On Profit Taxes on Cooperatives

The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet resolves:

1. To establish that production cooperatives (with the exception of kolkhozes [collective farms]) and their unions and associations, generating profits due to economic operations, henceforth referred to as "cooperatives," pay a profit tax to the budget out of the proceeds from selling products (work, services) and other revenues less the value of raw and other materials used, payments for the services of outside organizations, transportation expenses, amortization allowances, quotas of rent payments for fixed assets, interest for using short-term bank loans, actual expenditures for the acquisition of fixed assets, training of their personnel, and other expenses (with the exception of expenses for the remuneration of labor), as well as the quotas of taxes paid and other mandatory payments to the budget due to the main operations, including state social security contributions.

The segment of income contributed to the V.I. Lenin Soviet Children's Fund, Soviet Peace Fund, Soviet Cultural Fund, Soviet Charity and Health Fund, other similar funds, and for other charitable purposes is exempt from taxation, as well as the segment of profit spent for environmental protection.

2. The level of tax rates is set forth in the legislation of union republics, proceeding from the need to develop the cooperative movement in every way possible, take into account local and ethnic peculiarities, create conditions for economic competition between cooperatives and state enterprises, and conduct an effective tax policy. The rates may be differentiated according to the type of cooperatives, objectives of their operations, urgency of meeting the needs of the populace, environment for the material and technical supply and sales of products (work, services), price setting and the profit margin of cooperatives, and the share of labor of immediate members of the cooperative in the overall input of labor. Maximum levels of tax rates should not exceed 25 percent of the taxable profit of a cooperative selling its products (work, services) at prices not exceeding state prices, and 35 percent in all other cases, except for trade and procurement, public catering, brokerage, and show business (excluding theatrical and artistic) cooperatives.

In determining the ratio of the number of cooperative members and persons employed on labor contracts for the purposes of calculating the profit tax, handicapped persons employed on contract, retirees, college students, students, and mothers of many children should not be taken into account.

Cooperatives producing and processing agricultural products (except for kolkhozes), construction cooperatives, as well as cooperatives producing construction materials, are completely exempt from the profit tax during their first 2 years of operation. Cooperatives of all other types pay a tax in the amount of 25 percent of the tax rate adopted for the corresponding type of cooperatives during their first year of operation, and 50 percent during their second year of operation. If a cooperative goes out of business before the expiration of 3 years, the quota of taxes is calculated at the full rate set for this type of cooperatives for the entire period of its operation.

With a view to providing incentives for manufacturing the products (work, services) which the populace and the national economy require and to reducing the prices (tariffs) for them, the executive committee of the local Soviet of People's Deputies in whose jurisdiction a cooperative is registered may reduce the tax rates or exempt individual cooperatives from taxes for a definite period of time on the basis of a resolution by the local Soviet of People's Deputies or of a conclusion by a special commission of deputies.

The right to receive reductions is granted to cooperatives in which no less than 50 percent of the labor force consists of people with a restricted ability to work (handicapped of all categories, retirees by virtue of age, students), as well as to cooperatives using local and secondary raw materials; cooperatives involved in the production and processing of self-produced farm goods, in production of special-function goods for the handicapped and senior citizens, and in rendering of charitable services; and to cooperatives mastering new high-quality products entailing increased outlays for production.

The branches (divisions) of a cooperative located outside its venue and having an independent or separate balance sheet and an account at a banking institution pay profit taxes according to their place of business in keeping with the laws of the union republic in whose territory they operate.

3. The cooperatives must furnish to the finance organs a profit declaration no later than the 15th day of the month following the end of a quarter. The procedures and form for furnishing the declaration are set by the USSR Ministry of Finance.

4. Cooperatives pay profit taxes once per quarter, no later than the 20th day of the month following the end of a quarter. The calculation and payment of taxes is done by the cooperative itself.

5. The cooperative is responsible for the accuracy of calculations and the timeliness of payment of the profit tax. In the event of concealment or underreporting of taxable income, the entire quota of concealed (underreported) income, regardless of the time when it was generated, is withheld from the cooperative by the budget, as well as a fine in the amount equal to this quota. A fine increased by a factor of 2 is imposed on the cooperative in the event of repeated concealment (underreporting) of profits. The quota of concealed (underreported) profit and the fine are paid within 5 days from the moment the violation is uncovered.

6. It is established that penalties in the amount of 0.05 percent of the sum of arrears are added for every day of late payment of the quotas of profit tax on cooperatives not paid to the budget in a timely manner.

The quota of the tax, as well as of the concealed (underreported) profit and the fine for the concealment (underreporting) of profits not paid before the deadline set are collected on the instructions of finance organs without appeal.

7. The quotas of the profit tax, the quotas of concealed (underreported) profits, and the fine for concealing (underreporting) profits are contributed to the budget of the rayon or city in which the executive committee of the soviet has registered the statute of the cooperative, and the quotas of such payments made by the unions and associations of cooperatives are contributed to the budget of the rayon or city at their venue of business.

8. The finance organs monitor the accuracy of calculating and timeliness of payment of the profit tax on cooperatives, the accuracy of compiling and the timeliness of filing the declarations. At the request of finance organs, the cooperatives must furnish all documents necessary for verifying the accuracy of determining the volume of taxable income and the volume of tax.

9. Incorrect actions of officials committed by them in the course of withholding the profit tax on cooperatives are appealed through procedures envisaged by the Regulations on Collecting Taxes and Non-Tax Payments Not Paid in a Timely Manner, adopted by a decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet dated 26 January 1981 (VEDOMOSTI VERKHOVNOGO SOVETA SSSR, 1981, No 5, item 122).

10. In conjunction with the adoption of the present decree:

1) in the Decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet dated 1 March 1979 "On Profit Taxes on Cooperative and Social Organizations" (VEDOMOSTI VERKHOVNOGO SOVETA SSSR, 1979, No 10, item 156; 1987, No 7, item 90; 1988, No 11, item 174):

Article 1 is to be rendered as follows:

"1. Pursuant to the present decree, the profit tax is collected on the actual balance profit due to economic operations performed by cooperative organizations (excluding production cooperatives, their unions and associations, as well as interfarm enterprises and organizations in agriculture and their associations) and social organizations, and on the sum of the surplus of profits over expenditures for the paid events held by them.

"The tax is paid at a rate of 35 percent of taxable profit.

"Social organizations of the handicapped, their offices, instruction and production enterprises, and associations are exempt from the profit tax";

Point C of Article 2 is to be acknowledged as repealed;

The second part of Article 3 is to be rendered as follows:

"Calculations of the profit tax are made once every quarter on the basis of the quota of actual balance profit and the quota of the surplus of profits over expenditures for the time elapsed since the beginning of the year";

The second part of Article 8 and Article 15 are to be acknowledged as repealed.

2) Article 4 of the Decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet dated 14 March 1988 "On the Taxation of Citizens Employed in Cooperatives Producing and Selling Products and Rendering Services, as Well as on Changes in Procedures for Granting Licenses for Individual Labor Operations" (VEDOMOSTI VERKHOVNOGO SOVETA SSSR, 1988, No 11, item 174) is to be acknowledged as repealed.

11. The present decree is to take effect on 1 July 1989.

12. Before 1 July 1989, the USSR Council of Ministers will bring the resolutions of the USSR Government into compliance with the present decree.

13. The Presidiums of the Supreme Soviets of union republics are to be charged with bringing the legislation of union republics into compliance with the present decree.

[Signed] Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet M. Gorbachev
Moscow, Kremlin, 2 August 1989

Economy Termed Lawmakers' First Priority

18001482 Moscow ARGUMENTY I FAKTY in Russian No 31, 5-11 Aug 89 pp 1-2

[Interview with S.S. Alekseyev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee on Questions of Legislation, Legality, and Law and Order, by ARGUMENTY I FAKTY correspondent V. Voronetskiy: "The Legal Basis of the Country"; date, place of interview not given; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] **Today, when our country has adopted a policy of forming a socialist rule-of-law state, the work of the Committee on Questions of Legislation, Legality, and Law and Order that was established by the USSR Supreme Soviet is of exceptional importance. How should this work be conducted? What are its priorities? This is the subject of an interview with S.S. Alekseyev, chairman of the committee and a corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, by ARGUMENTY I FAKTY correspondent V. Voronetsky.**

[Voronetskiy] Sergey Sergeyevich! It follows from a decision of the USSR Congress of People's Deputies that you are faced with the task of creating a legal system that would meet the standards of a rule-of-law state.

[Alekseyev] First, I would like to say that this task faces not only our committee. It is not up to the task by itself. There is no end of work here. We, in particular, on instructions of the congress, must create the first genuine constitution which in compressed, clear wording would secure the existence of our state as a free state, guarantee the safe existence of each person, and translate the ideals and values of socialism into legal language.

[Voronetskiy] The preparation of such a document is a difficult undertaking. It will require a lot of time, but life does not stand still. Recent events associated with the strike of the miners reminds us of this.

[Alekseyev] Yes, you are right. The constitution is the basic law. But quite a few other laws are also needed. The negative events that are occurring in the country bring to the forefront questions associated with extricating the national economy from its current crisis condition and the intensification of the shift of the economy that has been started toward the individual. Naturally, this requires the adoption of a whole series of new legislative acts that would reinforce the perestroyka that is unfolding in the country. We must create a legal foundation under an economy that is highly profitable and that has a high income. In my view, it must be a mixed, market economy of a socialist type that could become a self-regulating system. Then all of our problems would be resolved more easily: The means will exist for the resolution of social problems.

[Voronetskiy] What, specifically, will be done in this plan?

[Alekseyev] Without delay (there is already a Supreme Soviet decree on this) we must adopt laws on property, leases, cooperatives, and a single tax system in the USSR, and introduce amendments and supplements to the Law on the State Enterprise. Apparently, it will be possible to do this at the next session of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

[Voronetskiy] And why is it a question of these specific legal acts?

[Alekseyev] Today they contain the key to overcoming those disruptions that obstruct perestroyka, that do not permit the realization of its creative principles, and that block many measures for implementing transformations in the economy. These laws are called on to open the floodgates for people with initiative and who are enterprising, and to let them feel that they are the real masters of production. It is these kinds of legal acts, in our opinion, that will help accelerate our movement forward along the path of creating a new economic mechanism and the introduction of progressive forms of organization of the economic life of the country.

[Voronetskiy] And how will the demands and proposals of the deputy-agrarians at the congress be taken into account in legislation?

[Alekseyev] In the most fundamental way. In particular, draft statutes on land use, which will introduce substantive corrections to the currently existing legislation, will be submitted for review by the USSR Supreme Soviet. Their main point is that the peasant should become the master of the land. How should this be done? Apparently, we must establish a lifetime hereditary lease. Voices are also being heard in favor of institutionalizing private property in land. I am not a supporter of such views. Land is national property.

[Voronetskiy] And what is the roll of the committee in the preparation of legal acts that ensure the broadening of the economic independence of the republics?

[Alekseyev] It is a very complicated question. Its resolution depends to a significant degree on the settlement of the problems of federation in our country. The proposals here are polarized. Some proceed from almost a complete economic isolation of the republics. Others, to the contrary, proceed from the need for greater centralism. Apparently, resolution of the question is in the golden mean. Substantial independence must be granted to the union republics as our sovereign states. And at the same time, it is necessary to ensure the functioning of the Soviet Union as a single federated state, and to give it the capability to implement general management of the economy. With respect to land and other natural resources, I support the existence of joint property.

A union and union republics with a clear division of jurisdictions between them. At the session of the Supreme Soviet we supported the proposal of the Baltic republics concerning the shift to cost accounting starting on 1 January 1990. However, from a legal standpoint the draft of this law needs additional work and coordination with other laws. We will take on what is urgent.

[Voronetskiy] An intensification of the process of democratization in the life of our society urgently requires the adoption of laws concerning the rights and interests of citizens. What must be done in this direction?

[Alekseyev] By a decision of the congress, the first thing that must be done is to resolve questions conerning an increase in the minimal pension scales and material support for poor families and citizens, old people living alone, and invalids. Drafts of these laws have already been submitted at this session of the Supreme Soviet. It is planned at the next session to review legal acts that would broaden the sphere for applying the law on citizens lodging complaints against the illegal acts of officials who violate people's rights. It now covers only individual illegal acts of officials. The question of complaining about collective decisions that infringe upon people's rights has been raised. This would fortify the legal positions of citizens.

Intensification of the process of democratization will be promoted by the adoption of laws concerning the press, public associations of citizens of the USSR, laws of professional unions of the USSR, the youth, freedom of conscience and religious organizations, and procedures for resolving collective labor disputes. Our committee must submit findings on whether the ukase on the procedure for conducting rallies and demonstrations and the ukase about the duties and rights of the internal troops of the MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] are in consonance with the USSR Constitution. We must also develop draft laws that ensure the practical implementation of judicial and legal reform.

[Voronetskiy] We receive many letters with complaints about the imperfections in our laws. How, in your opinion, can this be explained?

[Alekseyev] There are many reasons here. One of them, I think, is that draft laws were previously prepared in the main apparatus, and not many scientists were brought in on this important matter. It is true that it was proposed to make preliminary drafts for us, but nothing came of this. As a rule, no attention was paid to our proposals. What is also bad is that drafts of important laws were not always discussed publicly. The situation started to change recently. For example, I, together with other scientists, was able to participate in the preparation of standard documents on leasing relationships.

[Voronetskiy] There has been an increase in the flow of letters in the editorial mail concerning the deficiencies in the work of our legal organs. For example, the courts are almost not reviewing cases concerning those who suppress criticism. How do you explain this?

[Alekseyev] One of the reasons, I think, is the onesidedness of our legal culture. People have not become accustomed to fighting for their rights. Usually they send complaints to party and soviet organs. Meanwhile, a constitutional and legal mechanism exists that permits defending one's rights and fighting against bureaucratic misinterpretations. There are also other reasons associated with an unjustified increase in the respectful attitude toward administration. We all think that the staff workers cannot be called to account, and that one can only file complaints against them to higher offices. We must arrive at sort of a mutual relationship between the individual and the state where not only the citizen is answerable to the powers that be, but where the state also is answerable to the citizen. This is one of the important principles of democracy. However, to achieve such an ideal is not very easy.

Justice Minister on Decreasing Judges Corps

LD1508173189 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] At the USSR Ministry of Justice a news conference has taken place at which journalists have been acquainted with the work of the country's courts. Our correspondent Anatoliy Fedorov tells us about it.

[Fedorov] Judicial statistics, just like criminal statistics, were for a long time in a sphere of special secrecy in our country. Therefore, to begin with I will report some figures to you. The total number of people convicted in the first 6 months of this year has decreased compared with the same period of last year by 7.6 percent. All in all, slightly more than 380,000 people have set off for not so remote parts. Of the total number of criminal acts committed in production 84 percent ended with the passing of a sentence. The cases of 34,000 citizens were referred for additional investigation and 2,520 people were acquitted. The number of individuals who at the time of the crime were not working or studying has grown to 65,000; moreover, more than half of them had previous convictions.

Justice in our country is administered by 4,000 courts and 16,000 judges. Is that a lot or a little? Judge for yourselves. In countries with populations much smaller than ours just as many professionals work in the courts. This is the paradoxical situation that has taken shape at the present time. More than a quarter of the judges have given in their notice, requesting to be relieved from their post and refusing to stand for a new term. I remind you that the election of judges is to take place next spring. I asked Veniamin Fedorovich Yakovlev, recently appointed USSR Justice Minister to comment on this.

[Begin recording] [Yakovlev] I very much hope that this situation will soon change, because if we do not improve the conditions in which the judges and the courts operate, then that figure, a quarter, by the time the elections are held, could increase catastrophically. We might find ourselves without a corps of judges at all.

[Fedorov] Urgent measures are needed.

[Yakovlev] Judges have been waiting for the measures for several years now. One can say that their patience is at breaking point. I think that in August or not later than September, one must adopt the relevant legislative acts, particularly a government decision that would seriously improve judges' material situation. A considerable raise is needed in judges' wages, wages that it is a disgrace to mention at the present time, since they are so scanty and low. They are lower than the nationwide average wage in our country.

[Fedorov] How much?

[Yakovlev] On a level of approximately R200, but there are rural judges whose wages are something like R180. It is a colossal burden and responsibility and one should understand that.

[Fedorov] What are you personally doing as minister of justice to...

[Yakovlev, interrupts] Since I took up my post I have been tackling this problem every day and I think that the matter is progressing for all that. I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the USSR Supreme Soviet committee for legislation and the lawfulness of maintaining law and order did make a special examination of that issue at its session and submitted the relevant solution. The USSR Supreme Soviet obliged the government to resolve this question within a 2-month period. By 21 January 1990 judges will receive new wages.

[Fedorov] What about the purely social aspects of this problem?

[Yakovlev] The law on the status of judges obliges the local authorities to provide newly elected judges with comfortable housing within 6 months of their election. I think that is also a good legislative instruction, the implementaion of which we will check on very zealously. Naturally the improvement in the work of judges, in the sense of premises, building, the building of new premises, repairs, provision with transport, and most important, ensuring independence, ensuring respect for judges, ensuring their immunity, with the assistance of the new law on the status of judges. All that taken together will completely change the situation of judges in our society. [end recording]

Commentator Urges Government Reorganization

PM1508153289 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 32, 6 Aug 89 p 3

[Yevgeniy Ambartsumov article: "Facets of Power"]

[Text] The doctrine of the division of Power seems to have the right to exist in this country now. Previously it was considered a bourgeois perversion. Today it is regarded as essence of the world's political experience, an effective antidote against the plague of totalitarianism and suppression of society and individuals by the state.

Legislative power is gradually being taken over by the Supreme Soviet, in earnest, not formally, as before. Thus the first and most important facet of the triple-egged power pyramid is being built. Of course, the Supreme Soviet has to handle the urgent problems of current politics (for instance, the miners' strike). These are being discussed and handled by the Supreme Soviet as a consultative and sometimes executive body.

Anyway, our legislature is filling out and building up muscle as it fulfils its own assignment: to pass a bulky package of laws vital for the country.

We could sink into legislative mania though, because however important the laws might be, the way they are executed is far more important, as our historical experience indicates. In keeping with the Constitution, the government should eventually become the top executive and controlling body. Traditionally substituting executive power for legislative (through restrictive and prohibitive interpretation of the law), the government has been undermining one of the facets of the power pyramid which threatens to tumble down on society.

Now the government will do well to concentrate on economic and political reforms and to find its place among the new structures developing on the basis of regional cost-accounting techniques. In short, the government should concentrate on macromanagement. From now on, it should manage the economy not along the vertical, departmental axis, but along the plane of horizontal relationships. The cabinet will have to renounce old methods, as they don't ensure effective management in today's conditions.

You may recall that only recently Nikolay Ryzhkov came out for keeping industrial ministries headed by "captains of industry" like the Mining Minister Shchadov, for fear of losing control. The demands put forward by the striking miners made it perfectly clear that this sort of control ought to have been renounced long ago and entrusted to work collectives. They can certainly cope better than the ministries; no one could do worse. The government otherwise runs the risk of becoming a superdepartment designed to handle emergencies.

The third, legal facet of the power pyramid has not yet been built. Hopes are being pinned on legal reform, the humanistic principles of which were formulated in the Resolution of the Supreme Soviet.

We have a long way to go before the three facets of power are knocked together. Hence the difficulties of the "transition period". What can be done to avoid a long delay? Let me draw your attention to what I see as two key points.

First of all, there's the question of connecting the power facets. I was one of the advocates of separating presidency from parliament. However, it has become crystal clear now that Mikhail Gorbachev's chairmanship, despite certain authoritarian excesses, gave the Congress of People's Deputies and the Supreme Soviet the necessary initial impulse and political prestige. Nevertheless, too much time was spent conducting the sessions and discussing procedure, whereas supreme authority today is needed first and foremost for the realization of decisions, for bringing together the efforts of all three categories of power, because our system always skids precisely at the joints.

In short, there has appeared an acute need for the mechanism of presidential power to assure effectiveness and independence. Until now we have been suffering not so much from Gorbachev's excessive power, as from a lack of its effectiveness.

In this connection, I would raise the question of our top statesman's Party identity. A combination of state and Party authority allows Mikhail Gorbachev to restrain those members of the "apparat" embittered by democratization, who have forgotten nothing, nor learnt any lessons.

At the same time, new prospects have opened up for a more solid foundation to the power pyramid I'm describing; for the shaping of genuine people's power through strike committees and other forms of spontaneous political activity of the working people; above all, for an early reelection of Union Republics' and local Soviets. This will help reduce the duration of the transition period, will coordinate the efforts of central and local authorities, and bridge the gap that is currently adding to the explosive situation.

Customs Department Head on New Regulations

LD1508105389 Moscow TASS in English 1036 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 15 TASS—The head of the USSR Council of Ministers' State Customs Department, Vitaliy Boyarov, speaks in the latest issue of SOVETSKAYA KULTURA about new customs rules that came into effect today.

He said that earlier customs' work was based on mistrust of everyone, while the new rules are based on trust of a majority of people passing through customs control.

Customs duties have been cut for 146 kinds of goods imported to the Soviet Union. These include audio and video-tape cassettes, photographic materials, perfumes, cosmetics, clothes and spare parts for cars.

Duties have been raised only for personal computers, sound synthesisers and electric organs, if they are imported in addition to goods bought with legally-received currency, or if they are imported as gifts.

Boyarov said that there are no special lists of authors whose books are banned for import. Customs officials are guided by the usual rules banning books advocating the violent overthrow of the existing order, terrorism, racism and so on. Pornography also remains banned.

New Customs Procedures Begin at Moscow Airport

LD1508192189 Moscow TASS in English 1704 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 15 TASS—Air passengers, who today arrived at Moscow's Sheremetyevo-2 International Airport from abroad, performed customs formalities two to three times faster than usual due to three "green corridors" passage through which did not require the filling of the customs declaration and inspection. All three corridors were opened here this morning.

Seventy tourists with luggage, who returned from a trip to Bulgaria, "passed the border" virtually in five minutes. Besides "green corridors", there are "red corridors" where passengers observe all formalities. A passenger himself is given the right to choose between the two after he reads information at the entrance to the airport building. By the way, customs officers can, if they have enough reasons, stop a passenger and propose to him to pass through the "red corridor".

This new air passenger control technology was worked out on the basis of the recommendations of the Customs Cooperation Council and the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO). It was introduced with vigorous assistance of the joint Soviet-Irish Aerofirst enterprise.

Gennady Shadrin, chief of the Sheremetyevo customs house, told TASS that customs at Sheremetyevo-1 and in two airports of Riga, capital of Latvia, have been operating under this method starting today. As experience is amassed, customs in other Soviet cities will also follow Moscow's example. "Simplifying formalities at the customs house and democratising its operation are an imperative of the time, of perestroyka in the country. It is based on the concept of greater trust in passengers and enhancing their legal protection," Shadrin said. But the new rules call for customs officers' higher professional standard in protecting the state's interests, he added.

Customs Declaration Required for Cross-Border Goods

PM0408125189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "Goods Crossing the Border"]

[Text] By government decision, since 1 April this year it has been mandatory in our country to declare goods and property taken across the USSR state border.

Declaring goods in present-day conditions makes it possible to more effectively monitor the observance of state interests on the world market, influence the export structure, and bring to light cases of irrational imports and other negative phenomena. It also aims to create nationwide Soviet customs statistics.

The process of declaring goods involves submitting to customs offices a declaration whose form and content are similar to customs documents used abroad.

It must be stressed that, whereas in the initial stage the need to declare goods affected only enterprises, associations, and organizations with the right of independent access to the foreign market, from 1 September this obligation will extend to all participants in foreign economic ties without exception. This is stipulated by the "Regulations on the Procedure for Admitting and Declaring Goods and Property Taken Across the USSR State Border" now being brought into effect.

It is important to note that only forms prepared by the USSR State Customs Control Main Administration can be used for the purpose of declaring goods. People should apply for these forms to the customs offices within whose zone of operation the enterprises or organizations concerned fall.

Participants in foreign economic ties can declare goods either independently or by agreement through the All-Union Foreign Trade Association "Soyuzvneshtrans" or other declaration organizations recognized as such in the established procedure.

The new regulations also apply to foreign goods in transit through Soviet territory, property temporarily imported into the Soviet Union or taken outside its borders, property intended for official use by diplomatic and consular missions of foreign states in the Soviet Union, international intergovernmental organizations, foreign firms, banks, and organizations in the Soviet Union, and the property of Soviet establishments abroad.

When goods and property with a total value of up to R200 are being taken across the state border, a customs declaration of goods is not required.

Customs declaration and the introduction of statistics and other measures envisage the implementation of customs procedures for which payment is levied.

Goods and property taken across the USSR state border in breach of the declaration procedure will not be allowed into the Soviet Union or abroad.

New Duty on Computer Equipment Levied Prematurely

PM2507125589 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 6

[F. Ivanov report under the rubric "Returning to a Previous Theme": "Customs Duty Conditionally Ahead of Schedule"]

[Text] IZVESTIYA (No 197) recently published an item entitled "The Computer Gets Through Customs," reporting the steep rise in customs duty on computer equipment imported into our country. We also reported that this rule does not apply to those citizens who went abroad before 1 July.

Hardly had the newspaper come off the press before the editorial office was inundated with telephone calls. Calls from people who had recently returned from trips abroad and from the relatives of people still touring abroad. Accusing the newspaper of disinformation, they were of one accord that customs officials are already levying duty at the higher rate from all citizens, regardless of when they went abroad.

Ringing around several customs offices, to our surprise we learned that their officials were working on the basis of the new customs duty rates and had absolutely no idea that they extended only to those who had gone abroad after 1 July. As they explained to us, they had received no additional instructions on this matter from the USSR Council of Ministers State Customs Control Main Administration.

We contacted P. Kovalev, senior secretary of the State Customs Control Main Administration Collegium. In answer to our bewilderment he said that the leaders of the State Customs Control Main Administration had sent a telegram to the regional customs services, explaining the procedure for collecting customs duty. It was possible, Petr Aleksandrovich said, that there had been some "misunderstanding." It must be put right. I suggest that all citizens with complaints against us refer to their local customs office or the State Customs Control Main Administration. I am sure that we will be able to sort everything out.

Of course, it is essential to return to people the money collected from them illegally. However, it is not only a question of the money. What is amazing is the ease and rapidity with which responsible decisions were taken whose details are unknown even to the customs officials themselves. We encounter so many cases where ill-considered innovations and a lack of honest, accurate information give rise to dissatisfaction among people and undermine the authority of the department concerned.

Program To Boost Fish Production Initiated

LD2607133889 Moscow TASS in English 0824 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—The Soviet Ministry of Fisheries has embarked upon a program to boost fish production in the next few years, its minister Nikolay Kotlyar said in an interview with the GOVERNMENT HERALD newspaper.

Enterprises to manufacture fish processing equipment are being built and modernised, he said. Finnish firms are assisting in the construction of a factory to manufacture sectional refrigerators.

In the USSR there are about 18 kilograms of fish per capita of the population, which is close to the consumption rate, the minister said. But it should be taken into account that one treats fish as a product which helps make up for a shortage of meat. The requirement in it is therefore much greater.

Fish stocks in seas and oceans will not grow substantially. The way out is therefore to use all the fish most efficiently. It is necessary to build up capacities for profound fish processing and to increase the production of ready-to-eat products.

Chazov Interviewed on Health Care Reform

LD2607084389 Moscow TASS in English 0708 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—Soviet Health Minister Yevgeniy Chazov expressed satisfaction with public awareness of the importance of health, in an interview published in the latest issue of "GOVERNMENT HERALD", which presents the new Soviet Government.

Chazov emphasised that measures to improve Soviet health care include creating a modern material and technical base, elaborating the new principles of public health organisation and management, passing over to evaluating work by qualitative indicators, reasonable decentralisation, and the transfer of management functions to local level. All this is already being implemented and shored up with extra funds, the minister stressed.

The sanitary service, which should become a real force countering environmental pollution, has begun operating more efficiently, Chazov went on. He said that a "sanitary code of the USSR", which is meant to protect human environment against the hazardous impact of industry and to normalise working conditions and the quality of food products, is being prepared for publication.

The priority of the mother and child protection service has been assured—up to 40 per cent of capital construction funds and a considerable amount of currency revenues have been earmarked for this, which has allowed the country to reduce the child mortality rate in two years.

The minister also touched on outstanding problems in the public health service. New thinking has still not affected a considerable number of managers, officials and work collectives. Many vitally important orders for the production of the necessary medicines, disposable syringes, and medical instruments continue to be thwarted and scientific advances find scarce application. Medical workers' salaries continue to be low. "Without solving these issues, health protection will never be satisfactory. We have to work and work hard here," Chazov concluded.

Computing Committee Chairman Interviewed

LD2507202589 Moscow TASS in English 1726 GMT 25 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 25 TASS—Elaborating a nationwide and regional programme for informatisation of Soviet society is the top priority task of the State Committee for Computing Technology and Informatics, the committee's chairman Boris Tolstykh told the "GOVERNMENT HERALD" newspaper.

He admitted that the situation in the field of information science in the USSR is critical, while information and new information technologies become increasingly the strategic source of the development of society. Having recalled that the Soviet market is being gradually saturated with personal computers, Tolstykh said: "However, this is not informatisation but only one of the important, although not a single, component part of its material basis. The second, equally important, aspect is the sharp rise in the efficiency of the application of computers by a variety of users, the determination of their requirements for information and creation of the conditions for ensuring their access to it."

To satisfy "information hunger," Tolstykh said, it is necessary to create as soon as possible a nationwide system of data transmission, data banks, information and computing networks and systems. This is also one of the committee's tasks.

Katushev on Foreign Economic Relations Ministry

LD2507142489 Moscow TASS in English 1146 GMT 25 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 25 TASS—The right to operate on the world market given to Soviet enterprises and cooperatives does not mean that the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations is no longer necessary. Konstantin Katushev, Soviet minister of foreign economic relations, said in an interview with GOVERNMENT HERALD: "We cannot do without an institution on a national level which would help create favourable conditions for Soviet exporters on the world market. It is especially important to master step by step the mechanism of coordinating their activities. For example, someone has to draw up plans of foreign economic relations, to regulate the export of goods of national importance, which account for 52 per cent of our exports, as well as imports financed from centralised funds. The work of all those who create industrial enterprises, thermal power plants and other projects abroad, who organise military and technical cooperation with socialist and a number of developing countries also requires coordination. Our union ministry, and important element of the system, is the one that performs all these functions."

Touching upon cooperation with socialist countries, Katushev said that he had participated together with other specialists in the working out of proposals on the creation of an economic, currency and financial cooperation mechanism of CMEA [CEMA] countries and the bringing of producers as close as possible to the world market. It is only now that these problems can really be tackled. "We have lost more than 15 years, and we shall have to make up for it," Katushev stressed.

Silayev on Restructuring Engineering

LD2407203289 Moscow TASS in English 1831 GMT 24 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 24 TASS—In an interview with the newspaper GOVERNMENT HERALD, Ivan Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR council of ministers and chairman of the Bureau of the USSR Council of Ministers on Machine-Building, said: "We shall resolutely support the formation of all new structural entities returning people the lost feeling of real masters of production". The interview is published in a special issues of the newspaper listing the new Soviet cabinet.

He called the establishment of intersectoral state-run amalgamations (Soviet concerns) a promising way of setting up a new progressive structure of running production.

According to Silayev, extreme centralisation and distribution of all products inside the USSR hampers competitiveness of Soviet machine-building on the foreign market. He sees a way out in granting Soviet enterprises the right to export part of their goods (between 5-20 and sometimes 30 per cent)

Council of Ministers Official on Living Standards

LD2407214389 Moscow TASS in English 2031 GMT 24 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 24 TASS—"Our main conclusion is that it is now essential to expedite work for social reorientation of the country's economy and for a tangible rise in the living standards of the people and first of all those of low-income sections of the population", Aleksandra Biryukova, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and head of the USSR Council of Ministers' Bureau for Social Development, said in an interview with a correspondent of the GOVERNMENT HERALD.

The interview is published in a special issue of the GOVERNMENT HERALD which introduces the new composition of the Soviet Government.

"We are now intensively studying what can be done with this end in view within the remaining 18 months of the current five-year plan period. I am confident that we shall find a solution. And still, we expect to secure a radical turn of the economy to face people's needs in the next, 13th five-year plan period". Biryukova emphasised.

She said the Bureau was working out state programmes on matters concerning the family, maternity and childhood, an improvement of the working and living conditions of women, and the ensurance of complete employment of the population able to work, since there is a surplus of labour force in a number of regions of the country.

Merchant Marine Minister Interviewed on Reform

LD2607111789 Moscow TASS in English 0849 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—The USSR earns over 2,000 million roubles in foreign currency through the carriage of Soviet foreign trade cargoes and cargoes of foreign charterers, Minister of Merchant Marine of the USSR Yuriy Volmer said in an interview with the GOVERNMENT HERALD newspaper.

The ministry meanwhile annually spends much foreign currency to charter foreign tonnage.

This paradox, he believes, is attributed to the very acute need to renew the fleet which has been insufficiently replenished for many years, and that led to its intensive ageing.

The world average ship age is 12.4 years, while for the soviet ships the figure is 15. Over 25 percent of them sail for over 20 years. The renewal of the fleet is possible only, if the industry changes over to self-financing principles, including foreign currency, Yuriy Volmer said.

"I think that we shall be ale to solve this problem, if we consolidate the sea transport administration perestroika, which has lately begun in our country, and further develop it", he said.

Zaykov Attends Meeting on Food Industry Problems

PM1508130189 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jul 89 p 1

[MOSTASS report: "Extricating the Sector From Its Laggard Position"]

[Text] Serious shortcomings in Muscovites' food supplies were brought to light by a recent session of the

Moscow CPSU City Committee [Gorkom] Bureau. The slow development of capacities and delays in retooling enterprises under the "Mosmyaso" Association were among the problems which attracted particular attention. On the other hand, this question, like others connected with implementing the "food program" for Muscovites, was only touched on in a general way. But the session decided to return to it in the near future and to conduct a real study at local level of the factors holding back the renewal of the sector and ways to overcome this problem.

The discussion of these problems was continued 27 July at the oldest enterprise in the sector—the Moscow Meat Combine—by L.N. Zaykov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, with a group of leaders of the sector, the Moscow City Soviet Executive Committee [Gorispolkom], and associated organizations.

By carrying out modernization without actually stopping production and using its own resources, this combine has found itself in a difficult situation. This could also jeopardize the association's fulfillment of the program to build a number of other projects, because they still do not have the necessary planning estimates documentation, subcontractors are failing to coordinate their work, and there have been holdups with the delivery of equipment.

A conference of the association's party and economic aktiv analyzed the whole range of questions concerned with supplying Muscovites with good quality meat products, including the state of affairs with regard to training and retaining cadres and to improving the quality of the raw materials supplied and collaboration with the state acceptance system. It was noted that the development of the sector is closely linked with the prompt supply of highly productive equipment, which enterprises in defense sectors have been instructed to manufacture.

The conference drew up specific measures whose implementation will make it possible to stabilize the work of enterprises in the association and achieve the daily targets for volume of output and delivery of goods to the trade network in the near future. Particular attention was devoted to speeding up the introduction of modern, economic forms of labor organization and remuneration—the lease, the contract, and full economic accountability. Several proposals are designed to reduce losses of worktime, particularly those caused by breaches of labor and technological discipline, idle time between shifts, and absenteeism. The implementation of all these measures will largely depend on purposeful, active work by the association's party organization.

Appreciating the urgency of resolving these issues, the conference instructed the Moscow Construction Committee and the Moscow City Main Administration for Architecture to take the necessary measures to develop the association's material and technical base. It took into account the statement by the leaders of these and other organizations that the modernization of all units will be completed within the set deadline and to high standards. The Moscow Gorispolkom, Taganskiy CPSU Rayon Committee, and the rayon soviet executive committee were instructed to make their monitoring procedures more effective and give a fundamental assessment of every case of bad organization and lack of discipline in the modernization of units in this vitally important sector.

A whole series of measures is concerned with resolving the cadre problem and improving the social and consumer service conditions of workers, engineering and technical personnel, and employees engaged in this sector.

V.T. Saykin, chairman of the Moscow Gorispolkom, V.I. Kuznetsov, secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, and A.I. Iyevlev, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, took part in the conference.

General Staff Aide's 'Arrogant Attitude' Scored

LD1508153689 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 33, 13 Aug 89 p 2

[Yegor Yakovlev article: "Instead of a Forbidden Publication"]

[Text] In the space occupied by this article there should have appeared an other one, entitled "Troops withdrawn from the frontier", devoted to the present-day situation on the Soviet-Chinese border. Its author, Yevgeniy Bugayenko, head of the APN office in Khabarovsk, visited the frontier together with Mr. Tai Ming-Cheng, of Hong Kong, military analyst of the Far Eastern Economic Review. The foreign correspondent got permission for this visit from the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces.

Yevgeniy Bugayenko wrote about his impressions, and his article was read by Major-General Oleg Ilyin, First Deputy Chief of the Political Administration of the Far Eastern Military District. However, for the article to appear in this newspaper permission had to be got from the organs of military censorship. But the latter referred the editors to the General Staff.

In reply to my request that Colonel-General Grigoriy Krivosheyev, Deputy Chief of the General Staff, study the article, I was told:

"It makes no difference what you are writing about over there. I don't know anything about this and I'm not going to read it."

To prove that the question had been decided irrevocably, the general banged down the telephone, not sparing the poor receiver. I had to call him back, which I did, this time referring to my status of people's deputy of the USSR. I wanted to find out the cause of this scornful, arrogant attitude towards the press. The reply was roughly the same, proving once again that the quantity and size of the stars on the shoulder-straps in no way indicate a person's educational background. Judge for yourselves:

"I don't care who you are, I'm not going to read it!" The general was foaming at the mouth. In reply to a request for a meeting, he said: "I have a conference, it will end at midnight, you can come then."

It is, of course, possible to put off publication of an article. But people like Colonel-General Krivosheyev should not put off changing their attitude towards glasnost and elementary politeness. I sincerely hope that the leadership of the USSR Armed Forces will agree with me at least on this question.

Census Statistics for Major Cities Published

18300742b Moscow ARGUMENTY I FAKTY in Russian No 27, 8-14 Jul 89 p 7

["The USSR State Committee for Statistics Reports"—ARGUMENTY I FAKTY headline]

[Text]

Coefficients of Natural Movement Among Capitals of Republics and Cities With Population of 1 million in 1988
Per 100 people

	Born	Died	Natural increase	Marriages	Divorces	Number of children who died under 1 year of age per 1,000 born
Alma-Ata	17.5	8.0	9.5	11.4	4.9	21.3
Ashkhabad	24.9	6.9	18.0	10.1	3.4	53.1
Baku*	20.1	7.5	12.6	6.6	2.8	28.4
Vilnius	13.8	7.2	6.6	10.7	3.6	11.5
Gorkiy	13.3	10.9	2.4	9.3	3.6	16.5
Dnepropetrovsk	13.5	10.3	3.2	9.6	4.5	15.2
Donetsk	12.5	10.2	2.3	9.6	4.8	17.2
Dushanbe	24.4	6.8	17.6	9.5	3.8	38.4
Yerevan	18.5	6.2	12.3	7.6	2.0	25.6
Kazan	15.9	9.6	6.3	10.2	4.1	18.0
Kiev	14.7	8.2	6.5	10.0	4.8	16.0
Kishinev	18.6	6.3	12.3	11.4	4.7	20.7
Kuybyshev	13.2	10.6	2.6	9.2	4.5	22.6
Leningrad*	13.8	11.6	2.2	11.5	5.2	19.0
Minsk	16.9	6.1	10.8	9.9	4.0	14.1
Moscow*	13.1	12.0	1.1	10.1	4.5	19.7
Novosibirsk	14.6	9.7	4.9	10.7	5.2	22.1
Odessa	11.8	10.2	1.6	10.6	5.9	15.3
Omsk	16.4	8.2	8.2	11.3	5.6	17.8
Perm	15.5	8.9	6.6	9.9	3.8	16.2
Riga	13.4	10.9	2.5	10.5	4.8	11.2
Rostov-on-Don	13.4	11.3	2.1	10.1	5.2	25.1
Sverdlovsk	15.1	9.4	5.7	10.2	4.2	15.3
Tallinn	15.2	10.3	4.9	10.1	4.9	15.3
Tashkent	19.9	7.1	12.8	10.0	3.6	28.3
Tbilisi	14.7	8.2	6.5	8.8	2.4	26.8
Ufa	16.1	7.8	8.3	8.2	3.7	22.0
Frunze	17.9	7.0	10.9	9.7	3.8	28.9
Kharkov	13.8	10.0	3.8	10.5	4.9	16.1
Chelyabinsk	15.8	8.9	6.9	10.5	4.4	15.8

**Including population points under jurisdiction of city soviet*

Machine-Builders Form New Association

LD1508121489 Moscow TASS in English 1148 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 15 TASS—The new association of business cooperation of enterprises and institutions of machine-building ministries with foreign countries will promote the establishment of business contacts between Soviet machine-building enterprises and foreign firms and improve their effectiveness, a press conference was told here today.

The creation of such an association reflects the democratisation of the Soviet economy, Vladimir Yefremov, deputy president of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said. He described the association as a prototype model of future joint-stock companies and trade firms whose creation will become possible after the adoption of a corresponding law in the USSR. According to Yefremov, 12 regional and trade associations have already been created in this country.

Speaking about the advantages of the new institutions, he mentioned their democratic character (they are managed not by superior bodies, but by elected boards of directors), flexibility and the ability to quickly adjust themselves to the market situation. The machine-builders' association of business cooperation has been created to lessen the gap between the internal Soviet market and the world market and helping Soviet machine-builders more promptly resolve problems connected with the improvement of quality, with marketing and standardization. The new association is to play an important part in the training of skilled specialists for the machine-building sector.

It was pointed out that the association plans to develop various forms of economic cooperation with foreign partners. The same as other Soviet associations, it has been given the right to conclude barter deals and sign contracts involving hard currency. It will devote much attention to the creation of joint enterprises with foreign partners and the development of cooperation with branch associations of Western countries. An agreement has already been signed on cooperation with the West German machine-builders' union. Negotiations are now under way with partners from the United States and France.

The founders of the association are the Bureau on Machine-Building under the Soviet Council of Ministers, the Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry and some 200 Soviet machine-building enterprises.

Oil Refineries Face Waste, Transport Problems

LD2507214789 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 25 Jul 89

[Commentary by Pavel Kasparov]

[Text] A signal of distress from the TASS correspondent in Bashkiriya.

A paradoxical situation has arisen. At the height of the harvest hundreds of combines are idle in the country's fields because of a shortage of fuel, while Bashkiriya's oil refineries are either shut down or are almost at a standstill. The workers of these enterprises are prepared to turn out as much output as is required, but they have nowhere to dispose of the residual ingredients of oil refining: mazut and tar.

This problem has existed for some time. Previously the Ufa oil refinery, for instance, was in a fever only in winter, when tank cars where not brought up in the required quantity. But now this situation has also arisen in summer. Not only the railwaymen, but also the river fleet is not ensuring the transportation of output. In July alone the refinery has failed to refine over 100,000 tonnes of oil and has underdelivered 45,000 tonnes of petrol and diesel fuel worth R3,600,000, and the collective itself lost over R360,000 of profit. The refinery is losing its best workers, who are leaving this enterprise.

A similar situation has arisen at the other oil-refining enterprises of Bashkiriya. The frequent shut-downs of equipment not only lead to break-downs but also give rise to a threat to workers' safety: an explosion can occur at any time in places where a huge quantity of oil products accumulates.

Gusev Discusses 'Acute' Ecology Problem

LD2407212289 Moscow TASS in English 1901 GMT 24 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 24 TASS—Ecology is a very acute problem in the Soviet Union, is the opinion of Vladimir Gusev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Council of Ministers Bureau on Chemical and Forestry Complex. In an interview with a GOVERNMENT HERALD newspaper correspondent (published in a special issue of the newspaper which lists the members of the new Soviet Government) he said: "People object to deployment in the Tyumen Region of enterprises producing medicines, NPP's [nuclear power plants], and even to utilisation of related oil gas which is now simply burnt in a torch."

Among the causes of such "total rejection" the deputy head of the Soviet Government lists unsatisfactory performance of individual chemical enterprises and people's insufficient knowledge of chemistry. "Today's level of scientific development may make any industrial process sewageless and dischargeless," he says in an interview. "In many cases, though, this may cost very much. It is not chemistry that stands guilty of polluting the atmosphere and water courses, it is the people who did not sufficiently elaborate a production process, have manufactured poor-quality equipment or are operating it with negligence."

In Gusev's opinion, the exortations to "halt chemistry are highly unrealistic." "The way out of the situation as seen by us is to accelerate a drastic revamping of the existing enterprises through introduction of high-efficiency modern equipment and ecologically clean processes, he says. Calculations indicate that it may take 5 to 6 years to make chemical industry acceptable to the people and ensuring the social and economic wellbeing of Soviet society."

Ryzhkov Visit to National Park Reported

PM0408133789 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jul 89 p 1

[S. Vishnevskaya article: "Example for Premiers"]

[Text] "I am singling this trip out from my other business because I consider defense of nature, history, and culture to be a most noble task," Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov said on the shores of the lake reserve located in the center of Losinyy Island.

The chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and L.N. Zaykov, first secretary of the CPSU Moscow City Party Committee, along with V.T. Saykin, chairman of the Moscow Soviet, spent most of their Saturday [29 July] in the capital's national park.

Our reportage will seem like a yarn.

It was decided right there on the spot to donate to the national park the so-called "grand ponds" which used to be a place of "retreat" for high-ranking officials during the times of stagnation. It was also decided to remove the Ministry of Automotive and Agricultural Machine Building base located in the oak wood within a month, restore the church in the village of Tayninskiy to believers, and abrogate the decision regarding the construction of a northern industrial zone in the capital.

It is no coincidence that the head of the government made his first trip in response to a deputy's query (the number of such queries is approaching the thousand mark) to the national park.

Losinyy Island today represents a cluster of problems, a mass of ecological nerves. Here you have wilful seizure of land, the siting of a helicopter flight test complex, the migration of desperate people from tumbledown huts (workers at the former peat enterprise), and the northern heat and electric power station....

Certainly, with all the will in the world the prime minister will never, of course, be able to visit all our ecological hotspots. But his trip to Losinyy Island set an example of the attitude to nature at statewide level.

"I have spent most of my life in the Urals," Nikolay Ivanovich said," and have been in love with nature there since I was a child, I saw the taiga and clear lakes around me and all this does, of course, remain with you throughout your life.... I told the old members of the government previously, a few years ago, that we must not brush aside the environment but should tackle it. People did not understand me and thought that this is all transient.... We talk a great deal about shortages.... Shortage of soap and many other things.... Of course, this is all life. But can one forget about such a shortage as the shortage of culture?

"I traveled around the national park and saw how garbage has piled up here in the glades.... Can a normal person really do that to his country? Can one really turn one's homeland into a dumping ground? Yes, I said at the Congress, we all have to go green.... This applies to every one of us. It applies to our behavior in the natural environment. It applies to environmental education in our kindergartens and schools.... The family can do a very great deal here.... For instance, I am under 'ecological pressure' from my wife and grandchildren.... Certainly, that is natural: Women and children are closest of all to nature."

Atomic Energy Ministry To Change Focus

LD2607174989 Moscow TASS in English 0943 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—The Soviet Ministry of Medium-Machine Building, whose activities were once top secret, and which is now called the Ministry of Atomic Energy and Industry, will largely change its focus, according to Minister Vitaliy Konovalov interviewed by the PRAVITELSTVENNY VESTNIK newspaper.

"If one is to speak about the prospects of the industry, it will still have its defence production program, but civil products will account for an ever growing share of its total output. The industry designs nuclear steam generating units. To make these units secure, a greater volume of design work and stand tests will be made. Enterprises which manufacture equipment for nuclear power stations will also be in our industry. We shall also supervise the exploitation of nuclear power stations".

A unified complex of designing, construction and safe exploitation of nuclear power stations is thus being created.

The industry will put out consumer goods and construction materials, products made of rare metals and rare-earth elements, and computers in increasing quantities, Konovalov said.

Chernobyl-Area Families Want To Leave

18220188 Moscow TRUD in Russian 4 Aug 89 p 2

[Letter to TRUD signed by 101 families in the village of Krugovka, Dobrushkiy Rayon, Gomel Oblast: "We Are from the 'Dead Zone'"]

[Text] Our village, where nearly 2000 people live, is located in the area contaminated after the Chernobyl catastrophe. The contamination of the soil comprises from 40 to 80 curies/sq km. It's true that now decontamination is being carried out on the rayon's territory, but what does it provide? They are plowing up the soil and covering it with sand, but after several days the same amount of radiation is in the sand. The soldiers work wearing respirators and gauze coverings, but what is there here to harm us? Prepared food exceeds all acceptable norms of radioactivity, and the meat combine will not accept the cattle we raise. In agriculture nearly 2000 hectares of land have been written off as being unsuitable due to high levels of radioactivity.

Each summer our children are sent to a pioneer camp in Vladimir Oblast, including those who require sanitorium care. But we cannot get passes to sanitoria. Illnesses among many of the children have intensified. Imagine the position of a mother who did not know for three months what was wrong with her child, or how he felt. On top of all this, there is hardly an inhabitant of our rayon who has not complained of headaches, nausea, stomach pains, or an enlarged thyroid. We live in a beautiful place, but it is impossible for us to make use of food, milk, fish, berries, mushrooms...

We want to keep our cattle and work in our gardens. We want our children to grow and work together with us, without having to ask whether something is radioactive before eating it. In a word, we want to live the way normal people live. We are asking through the newspaper TRUD: Help us so that we can settle in a clean, uncontaminated zone. We can no longer live and work in constant fear for ourselves and the next generation. Here is a suggestion. In the republic they are building new agricultural complexes and new villages. Why not resettle us there along with our equipment? For three years the local powers have promised to resolve our problems, but there are still no results.

Public Union on Nuclear Safety Issues Set Up

PM1108153389 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jul 89 p 1

[MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA-TASS report: "Constituent Conference of One of the First Organizations of the 'Chernobyl' All-Union Voluntary Self-Managed Public Union Held"]

[Text] G. Kuznetsov, deputy chief of the USSR Academy of Sciences Vernadskiy Institute of Geochemistry and Analytical Chemistry permanent radiogeochemistry expedition to eliminate the aftermath of the Chernobyl accident, has become chairman of the union's primary organization, which comprises staffers of several USSR Academy of Sciences scientific research institutes. The primary organization's work plans consist of public monitoring of radiation in Moscow's environment, the setting up of a database on all cases of nuclear accidents in our country and abroad, the compilation of a list of people who have suffered thereby, and the provision of legal and social assistance to them. Plus helping make the population more aware of radiation in the environment and liaising with foreign public organizations and movements in the struggle for a safe world.

Blast Stops Gas Exports to Finland

AU0908124089 Paris AFP in English 1231 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Helsinki, Aug 9 (AFP)—Soviet condensed gas deliveries to Finland and transit supplies to the West have stopped since a pipeline explosion killed several hundred people in June, the Finnish news agency FNB said Wednesday.

The Soviet Union had informed the Finnish state-run oil company Neste that the gas explosion in the Ural mountains on the trans-Siberian line, which killed hundreds of people in two passing trains, has stopped all exports of condensed gas to Finland.

Finnish company Finngas, which was scheduled to re-export 400,000 tonnes of condensed gas to the West, said that the Soviet deliveries were halted soon after the June 4 accident.

The Soviet officials said the pipeline was in such a bad condition that it would have to be renewed over a distance of 400 kilometres (250 miles), but reports here said the distance might be up to 2,000 kilometres.

The Soviets have also told the Finns that liquid gas deliveries will not resume until the autumn at the earliest Finnish experts said the exports may not begin again until next year.

Voronin Attends Construction Workers Meeting

PM1508151189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Aug 89 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "In Honor of the Holiday"]

[Text] A ceremonial meeting devoted to the professional holiday of Construction Workers' Day was held in Moscow 11 August.

Taking part in the meeting were L.A. Voronin, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, senior officials from the CPSU Central Committee, and the leaders of a number of ministries and departments.

Minister Interviewed on Baykal-Amur Rail Line

LD2607201489 Moscow TASS in English 1218 GMT 26 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS—Vladimir Brezhnev, Soviet minister of transport construction, has refuted rumours that the Baykal-Amur Mainline (BAM) means 'billions of roubles put into permafrost'.

In an interview published in the latest issue of the GOVERNMENT HERALD, he said that the construction of the railway, which runs from Siberia to the Pacific coast, was expensive.

"One should look into the future, though," he said. "This year we are to bring the entire railway into permanent operation. According to the calculations of the USSR Ministry of Railways, this will make it possible considerably to relieve the Trans-Siberian Railway in 1990 and increase the BAM's throughput more than six-fold by 1992."

On some sections of the railway, capital investments have already paid their way. The construction of an Amur-Yakut Railway began in 1985 and economists estimate that the line will have paid for itself within three years.

Package Bomb Kills Mail Employee

PM2607134989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jul 89 Second Edition p 8

[Own correspondent A. Ulitenok report under the rubric "From the Courtroom": "It Began With a Card Game"]

[Text] Minsk—About a year ago an incident in the tranquil Belorussian rayon city of Borisov which gave rise to a mass of rumors, false assumptions, and guesses. Few people believed that the militia would be able to identify the criminal who had sent an explosive device through the post. Unfortunately, the "infernal device" went off at a mail sorting office. As a result one woman was killled and another received burns.

The investigation was prolonged and complex. It revealed that three people had played cards at a party. They played for money and on credit. The losers were in no hurry to part with their R1,500. So the winner, one A. Petrekovskiy, began to blackmail them. In retaliation the 22-year-old Mezinskiy simply decided to get rid of the more successful cardplayer. From Minsk his girl friend M. Filipovich dispatched the lethal package to A. Petrekovskiy in Borisov.

...The people's court sentenced A. Mezinskiy and M. Filipovich respectively to 14 and 8 years' deprivation of liberty. A. Petrekovskiy received 3 years for extortion.

Militia Enables Archbishop To Address Rally

PM1408124789 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Aug 89 Morning Edition p 2

[Own correspondent Anatoliy Kleva report under the rubric "Direct Line": "Militia Had To Intervene"]

[Text] At an "Ecoforum" ecology rally, attempts were made to prevent Archbishop Iriney of Kharkov and Bogodukhov from speaking at the "Dinamo" Stadium.

One of the leading organizers of "Ecoforum," a new public association, was essentially deprived of the possibility to speak.

Why did this happen? The organizers of the rally—mainly V. Chub, chairman of the oblast trade union council—had deliberately directed its work toward confrontation rather than toward consolidation and the development of a unified program to change the extremely unfavorable ecological situation in the city. Thanks to militia intervention, the hooligans left the stadium arena and the archbishop was able to reach the microphone.

Odintsovskiy Rayon Reflects Oblast Situation

PM2507150789 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Jul 89 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report under the rubric "From Moscow CPSU Oblast Committee Plenum": "Rayon's Communists Give Account of Themselves"]

[Text] Why is the authority of some party organizations on the wane? Why are the functions of party, soviet, and economic bodies being demarcated so slowly? Why do many leaders say they are in favor of perestroyka while slowing it down in practice? The participants in a Moscow Oblast party committee [obkom] plenum held 22 July tried to find the answers to these and other questions and heard a report by Odintsovo CPSU City Committee [gorkom] on raising the level of political leadership of primary party organizations and enhancing their role in implementing the decisions of the 27th party congress and the 19th All-Union Party Conference.

Odintsovskiy Rayon is average for the Moscow region in terms of the number of inhabitants and the level of industrial and agricultural development. Consequently, the problems typical of other parts of the region are very clearly illustrated by its example. The plenum noted that the party gorkom has stepped up its activity to improve the style and methods of political leadership of primary party organizations. The focus of organizational and ideological work is shifting more and more toward the labor collectives. The gorkom has set up standing commissions responsible for the main areas of activity. Positive changes are being made in work with cadres, and the practice of their open nomination and alternative choices is becoming established. New forms of political education work are being sought, the social activeness of the working people developed, and this active involvement made more constructive and creative.

The new methods of economic management, speakers noted, are having a positive impact on the development of the rayon's economy. The growth rate of labor productivity is increasing, as is the output and purchase of livestock, poultry, milk, and eggs. The economy's stronger social thrust has made it possible to increase the commissioning of housing and strengthen the material base of the social sphere in the last 4 years.

At the same time, the Moscow CPSU Obkom plenum was of the opinion that the restructuring of activity by Odintsovo's party gorkom and primary party organizations is failing to keep pace with the rapidly expanding and deepening processes of democratization in society. There is no system whereby Communists' critical observations can be put into effect. The gorkom apparatus is still arrogating to itself administrative and directive functions inappropriate for it and is being slow to eradicate the bureaucratic work style. A substantial proportion of the party aktiv does not have close ties with people and does little work in labor collectives, social organizations, and action groups trying to resolve social, economic, and cultural problems.

The incidence of negative, antisocial phenomena has risen considerably in the rayon, but the gorkom is not being assertive enough in the struggle to strengthen labor and social discipline and eradicate drunkenness and crime.

Problems in the social sphere remain serious. The plenum felt that the party gorkom was unable to bring into play all the most effective levers for speeding up the rayon's economic development.

The omissions in the work of Odintsovo party gorkom, the Moscow CPSU Obkom plenum pointed out, are to a certain extent the result of inadequate leadership of the gorkom by the bureau and secretariat of Moscow party obkom and obkom departments, which have failed to take measures to increase the militancy of the city party organization.

First Republic Program Broadcast to Turkmenistan

LD1008090289 Ashkabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 18 Jul 89 p 4

[Excerpt] The powerful retransmitter on Arlan mountain near Nebit-Dag has begun broadcasting two radio programs—the all-union "Mayak" [Moscow Domestic Service] program and the first republican program. The channels operate on the ultra-short-wave band which ensures high-quality reception. With broadcasting of "Mayak" and the first republican program the mountain retransmitter has reached its planned capacity. Three television programs are also broadcast from there. [passage omitted]

LENINGRAD ARTS Magazine Published

LD1208202689 Moscow TASS in English 1754 GMT 12 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Leningrad August 12 TASS—One of Anna Akhmatova's most complex and mysterious poems "prologue, or a dream within a dream" has been published for the first time in the new magazine "LENINGRAD ARTS" which began appearing here. The publication which attracted the attention of poetry lovers has highlighted the debut of the new periodical, jointly sponsored by the city's creative unions. [passage omitted]

The first issue of the magazine, which was sold out within hours of its appearance, carries materials on the theatre, cinematography, architecture and fine arts. Worthy of special note is a historical and philosophic essay entitled "Music in the Ice". The circumstantial and brilliant essay by Mikhail Zolotonosov is devoted to the tragic fate and "Gene Fund" of the Russian intelligentsia.

The monthly magazine will be circulated across the country, subscription for 1990 has been announced.

New Catholic Churches Built in Ukraine

LD1208120289 Moscow TASS in English 1030 GMT 12 Aug 89

[Text] Kiev August 12 TASS—A Catholic church designed by Lvov architects is being built in the old Ukrainian city of Novograd-Volynsky, the Zhitomir region. The church, being built in classical Gothic traditions, will be decorated with bas-reliefs, sculptures and paintings and will have an organ.

The church is being erected on the initiative of the local Polish Catholic community uniting 3,500 people. It has allocated much money for the church's construction in which they take part themselves.

"We are completely satisfied," Catholic priest Wincenty Witko said. "The local authorities, especially chairman of the city executive committee and USSR People's Deputy Anatoliy Rynka, are very interested in the construction. We receive aid from the city's chief architect Anatoliy Borovik. We hope to open the church before the end of the year."

Restructuring, democracy and glasnost, which have improved relations between the state and the Church, have been used by many religious communities in the Ukraine to build some new churches and renovate the old.

More than ten religious buildings have been returned to rural Orthodox and Catholic religious communities by local authorities in the Zhitomir region in the past three years. Christian Baptists, Pentecostals and other religious organisations now have their religious buildings.

Private Detective Agency Opens in Moscow

LD1408222989 Moscow TASS in English 2213 GMT 14 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 15 TASS—By TASS correspondent Viktor Chistyakov:

"Our agency can make the life of our customers calmer and more secure", Valentin Kosyakov, director of the Moscow privately-owned investigatory agency "Alex" told TASS. "We do not try to put up competition to militia. Our agency is solving specific tasks which the state might regard insignificant, but in which the agency's assistance can prove irreplaceable".

Kosyakov said that in addition to the agencies in Leningrad and Moscow, "Alex" now has branches in 34 other cities of the USSR, from the Ukraine to the Urals, and that their number is increasing. The investigatory agencies have the purpose of protecting the life, health and property of Soviet and foreign citizens, protecting the property of organisations, enterprises and cooperatives, rendering juridical assistance to citizens and organisations, the search of missing persons. The Moscow agency employs some 20 staffers on a permanent basis, while the services of some 50-70 persons are enlisted on contracts for separate assignments. Private detectives in Moscow are aged 25-35 years, but all of them have the experience of work in law enforcement bodies.

"We give the closest of attention to selecting our personnel", the agency's director said. "We place an emphasis not only on high professionalism, but also on moral purity. For a private detective is not a post but a calling".

Kosyakov is of the opinion that the services provided by the investigatory agency can interest foreign tourists and businessmen. The agency not only provides bodyguards but also checks industrial spying, ensures security at joint enterprises, selects and screens personnel for such enterprises.

Article Recognizes Legacy of Rachmaninov

18001372 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 15 Jul 89 p 2

[Article by TASS special correspondent A. Russkiy in Tambov]

[Text] Two important musical festivals of union and international significance have been established in Tambov. The S.V. Rachmaninov All-Russian Festival, named for the Russian composer, conductor, and pianist, has been successfully held here for several years. Thousands of admirers of his talent from various regions of the country and from abroad come to the festival. This year's festival is special in that the Ministry of Culture has raised it to the status of "all-Union". International piano classes in the name of S.V. Rachmaninov are also being conducted these days. More than 50 young musicians from Europe, Asia, America and leading conservatories of our country have arrived in Tambov.

These important events in the musical life of the country have opened the wealth of the music of Rachmaninov and other national composers to thousands of people and have mutually enriched the music schools of various countries. But these events also highlighted a series of acute problems arising from the return to the homeland of the enormous legacy of a musician whose talent is recognized and respected throughout the world.

The TASS correspondent asked a professor of the Moscow Conservatory, V. Merzhanov, one of the organizers of the Rachmaninov festival and artistic director of the international piano courses, about the progress of this work.

"The subject of the return to the homeland of Rachmaninov's legacy excites all Soviet musicians," Viktor Karpovich says. "The recently organized All-Union Musical Society is also actively involved with these questions, particularly the creative pianists section. I myself was born in Tambov. I finished music school before the war, and I know and greatly value the national traditions of this region. They generously enriched the musical world of Rachmaninov.

"It is very fortunate that his name and works at last occupy a place of honor in the cultural life of our country. In that sense a Rachmaninov festival has enormous significance. After all, there was a time when art officials forbade the performance even of his individual works, not to speak of organizing a festival. For instance, the senior musicologist in Tambov, N. Yemelyanova, having expended much effort in studying Rachmaninov's work, remembers it well. People envious of his greatness shamed her for occupying herself with a 'turncoat'. These were people with little understanding of Serge Vasilyevich's music, but who were much concerned with the stability of their own positions.

"I would like to thank those leaders who years ago understood the importance of returning the composer's creative legacy to his homeland. A 15-kilometer paved road to Ivanovka, S.V. Rachmaninov's farmstead, was built quickly thanks to the personal interest shown by the former first secretary of the Tambov Oblast party committee, A. Khomyakov. The present leadership of the oblast is also doing much to immortalize the memory of the talented musician. A large project is also being conducted by the pedagogical collective of the music school headed by director A. Bazikov."

[Russkiy] But can the inhabitants of Tambov alone "mount" projects on such a scale as an all-union festival and international piano courses? Organizing them costs substantially. Is there a resource base to carry them through?

[Merzhanov] The musical community pays for the expenses. But is it necessary to evaluate in rubles or dollars the enormous store of magnificent music of native classicists that is carried on in the works of Rachmaninov? Today, with the decline in the general level of morals and human culture, such music is of special significance. Incidentally, young foreign musicians trying to get into the courses at Tambov pay for them in hard currency. The conduct of the festivals is made more complicated by the absence of a symphony orchestra in the oblast center. Without it a music festival is unthinkable. It will be necessary to invite an orchestra from Moscow.

The question of help for the museum-home of the composer in Ivanovka, where fortunately a noted enthusiast of this matter, A. Yermakov, works, has come up acutely. Only thanks to his incredible efforts, an enormous collection of exhibit items dedicated to Serge Vasilyevich Rachmaninov has been amassed. But there is no room for it, not enough buildings. The ancient park, the entire estate must be restored. Unfortunately, many functionaries in the capital, as before, consider the museum to be local, belonging to the local collective farm or to the small town of Uvarovo. In the meantime, the farmstead is a most valuable property not only of our country but the entire world.

Serge Vasilyevich was buried in the United States, where his works are very popular. Festivals have been organized and competitions conducted in his name for many years. The art of Rachmaninov has captivated millions in the entire world. But in our country only the Tambov music school, which he inspected at the beginning of the century, is named after the great musician. How little we value people who are the pride of our national art; how feeble is our imagination!

The school, built in 1903 at the expense of the Russian musical society and with contributions from merchant-benefactors, was designed for 50 pupils. They had plenty of room. Now 300 students study in the same, though dilapidated, spaces. Damp, cold basements, former boiler rooms, and living spaces are being used as classrooms. The administration is forever fighting over this with the sanitation-epidemic control station, which justly tries to close unsuitable classrooms. The question of expansion of learning spaces has been discussed for many years, but the matter has not progressed beyond words. No wonder the students' level of preparation has dropped.

[Russkiy] The name of Rachmaninov is deeply revered in the United States, but it is known that the cemetery near New York where the composer is buried was paid for by the widow for a definite time. We are not indifferent to what will happen to the grave of Rachmaninov in the future. Even abroad he remained a Russian artist. Is it possible to return his remains home as was done, for instance, with the remains of Shalyapin?

[Merzhanov] After the reburial, Shalyapin's son wrote in SOVETSKAYA KULTURA how happy he was that his father had returned to the homeland and that next should be Rachmaninov. I believe that this opinion is shared by many of our compatriots who value the national culture. I am sure that if we do not do it now, our progeny will not forgive us. The All-Union Musical Society has presented this question to the government. I believe it can be resolved positively also with relatives of the composer living abroad.

There is also the problem of transferring home Rachmaninov's foreign legacy. For instance, villa "Senar" stands boarded up in Switzerland. He established it in memory of Ivanovka and named it by combining the first syllables of his and his wife's first names. It would be wonderful to acquire the villa from the heirs and establish there an international center named after Rachmaninov to propagate Russian and Soviet music. Additionally, international courses for pianists, concerts, and symposia could be conducted there. Funds for such a purchase, I think, could be collected partly from the numerous admirers of the composer's creative legacy. The musical society and SOVETSKAYA KULTURA readers, I am sure, would support this idea.

Economic

Finance Minister Discusses Cash Shortage

18200436 Moscow TRUD in Russian 8 Aug 89 pp 1,2

[Interview with USSR Minister of Finance V.S. Pavlov by V. Golovachev: "Everyone Needs Money"; date, place of interview not given; first two paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] At present our country's complicated financial situation is one of the most acute economic issues. Mounting inflation, rapid depreciation of the ruble, a huge state budget deficit, a foreign debt that has reached the danger line... The new USSR minister of finance, V.S. Pavlov, has a heavy burden to shoulder. Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers N.I. Ryzhkov said the following about him in a recent interview: "Doctor of economic sciences; as I see it, one of the top economists in the country; and he certainly has a very different view of the issues of finances than his predecessor..."

Our interview began with the most topical question of cash shortages in the banks.

[Golovachev] An emergency situation has recently developed in our country's banks. Due to the cash shortage, the banks are continuously delaying the payment of money to labor collectives. People have begun to receive their salaries with a delay of as much as a week. At times the matter comes to strikes, and in this event the money is immediately found. Why should the people be driven to extremes? The readers write: "Could it be that someone is interested in aggravating and destabilizing the situation?" How can you in your capacity as minister of finance explain this situation?

[Pavlov] Indeed, delays in the issuance of wages, which became massive in July, are causing considerable social tension. It is beyond any doubt that we should bring such improper practices to an end. However, I would not see someone's ill will in this. This is a consequence of the general deterioration of our country's economic situation.

Let us look at how the bank gets its money. A cash plan is compiled for every territory (republic, oblast, city, rural rayon) that specifies revenues and expenditures. The sales of goods, services, rents, payments, and so forth—all of these are taken in by the bank. Subsequently, the funds are spent for paying retirement benefits, wages, scholarships... However, the revenue side of the cash plan is often not fulfilled: For example, enterprises in a given territory may reduce the output of consumer goods, or, say, the oblast does not receive goods in the form of centralized deliveries. The overall exacerbation of shortages in the consumer market reduces the intake of money by the banks, and the revenues turn out to be much smaller than expenditures...

Very much depends on the initiative and resourcefulness of the local organs of authority—the development of local industry, sphere of services, cooperatives, individual labor activities, and so forth. However, it is also true that there is no opportunity to completely balance the cash plan in quite a few instances. As is known, on a nationwide scale the expenditures are greater than revenues, and the budget deficit depresses the entire economy. This also affects the regions.

I would like to quote statistics that I think have not been published. In 1960 there was 1 ruble 42 kopecks' worth of goods per ruble (taking the entire monetary mass into account), whereas at present there are only 18 kopecks' worth...

While compiling the cash plan, local organs see the "gap" on the revenue side and request that goods be delivered in a centralized manner, but there are no goods... Then they increase the plan of merchandise sales on paper and place unrealistic orders at enterprises—it looks like the cash plan has been "balanced." However, these paper tricks add no money in the bank. This is why they tell a plant cashier coming to the bank: "We have no cash today."

Unfortunately, we must resort to the emission of money—that is, the issuance of additional bills for which no goods are available. This undermines the economy still more.

[Golovachev] At the same time, is it not possible to supply the banks in advance with an adequate amount of paper money? Is it that difficult to print?

[Pavlov] It is not difficult to print it, although it is not that simple and not cheap. After all, this is no ordinary paper; it requires special protection, special materials, dye, special methods, procedures, forms of storage and delivery, and so forth. I must say that some stocks of paper money are placed in all banks in special vaults. However, bank employees have no right to use them without special authorization. They can be taken to court for that. They are not even allowed to enter these premises except in threes and according to strictly defined procedures—specifically, the ones who have access to the vault. I hope this is understandable: The emission of money cannot proceed in a decentralized manner, at the discretion of local bank employees. Otherwise, the financial basis of the country will be quickly undermined.

[Golovachev] Who authorizes emission?

[Pavlov] In principle, the issue is considered in the highest echelons—in the government, in the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee. Specific authorizations for the emission of money in one region or another are issued within the quota of the republic by the chairman of its Council of Ministers, and on the scale of the country by the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. In all instances, a thorough investigation is made as to why this is necessary and who is at fault... The procedure is usually as follows: Oblast organs of power approach the republic Council of Ministers, and the latter approaches the union Council of Ministers if it cannot find a way out.

[Golovachev] However, I am aware of cases where requests to authorize emission by oblast organizations were turned down...

[Pavlov] Yes, it does happen sometimes when, for example, local organs, enterprises, and organizations not fulfilling the plans they have adopted for the production of consumer goods are responsible for the lack of financial resources.

[Golovachev] Why should the workers pay for someone else's failings?

[Pavlov] This is why we want to develop procedures that would protect the interests of those working assiduously.

[Golovachev] What is the amount of emission this year?

[Pavlov] About R9 billion during the half-year. Unfortunately, emission is increasing rather than decreasing. After all, it already attained an unparalleled volume in the three previous 5-year plans: The amount of money in circulation has grown by a factor of more than 3.

[Golovachev] How much currency is in circulation at present?

[Pavlov] Over R100 billion. It would appear that this cannot be when R300 billion are deposited in savings accounts alone and, on top of that, R40 to 70 billion are "in the mattress," as the economists believe. The point is that pursuant to the laws of economics, the amount of cash in circulation is always much smaller than their entire sum. After all, cash is not at all always needed.

It has been proven in theory and practice that in a normal economy a volume of cash is necessary that would suffice for everyday needs for 25 to 30 days. For example, as little as 35 to 50 billion would have sufficed for us. However, the shortage of goods and the idle run in the economy bring about the overall volume of cash growing due to continuous emission; the sums that are not covered by the deliveries of goods and that end up in the hands of the populace increase. Emission brings about inflation and the depreciation of the ruble.

[Golovachev] Taking this into account, as well as the fact that the state debt now exceeds R300 billion, what do you intend to do in order to cure the financial situation?

[Pavlov] I will say right away that it is impossible to perform a miracle; the problems will not be solved all at once. For a decade and a half we have lived on credit and have eaten away more than we have earned. We continue to do this at present as well and borrow from our grandchildren, depleting the natural resources unreasonably. We consume and use what our fathers and grandfathers created; our fixed assets, our machinery and equipment become old quickly and their renewal lags behind the requirements of the time. What normal economic operations can there be when we have almost 8,000 enterprises operating at a loss, and we need more than R5 billion a year in order to keep them afloat? And then there is also our mismanagement, which costs us tens of billions of rubles....

In this sense we live no worse than we work because a considerable amount of our steam goes into the "whistle," into the air. This is why we do not live within our means, but live on credit, borrowing from our grandchildren. In a word, business must be conducted in an entirely different manner. This is the objective of the economic reform which, as I see it, is implemented in an insufficiently persistent and, at times, contradictory manner, slowly, and in the field it simply spins its wheels.

The implementation of a program of financial curing of the economy has now begun. Its primary directions are known—structural repatterning (that is, increasing the consumption fund at the expense of reducing the accumulation fund, changes in the output mix of enterprises, shops, and sections in the heavy and defense industries in favor of producing consumer goods), changes in the investment programs (on select major construction projects capital investment may be reduced by R27 billion), the abandonment of "grandiose" but entirely optional projects, and so forth. All of this will increase the output of goods by R40 billion.

[Golovachev] This is a perceptible step. Nonetheless, questions remain. First of all, this will not fully "cover with goods" 100 billion "spare" rubles; second, the results of carrying out the program will not appear immediately. In turn, the money (regular, not from emission) is continuously lacking at the banks at present. Where is the way out?

[Pavlov] Apparently, we will still have to use emission for some time, but, I think, less and less—maybe about R3 to 5 billion before the end of the year—because the saturation of the market with consumer goods will increase. Besides, emergency measures are being taken. For example, opportunities have been found to purchase abroad goods worth about R7 to 10 billion in retail prices.

[Golovachev] Of course, the measures enumerated are very important, but while providing a respite, they will not bring success if the economic and management mechanism is not improved, if we continue to live on credit, making debts. As far as I know, you have specific proposals, ideas, and studies. Could you tell us about some of them?

[Pavlov] Let us take the state budget as an example. How was it prepared? It seems that there was only one variant—proceeding from the funds available. But this was not the case; it was done in exactly the opposite way. At first, the plan was compiled: What needed to be built, remodeled, developed, and so on. The budget was then made to fit these draft plans regardless of whether the funds were available or not. It was considered that supposedly the money would always be forthcoming. That is to say, for many years the inflationary model of financing was deliberately opted for. In essence, the labor collectives were fleeced and deprived of the incentive to work. Everything was regimented: the number, the wage fund and funds for social needs, and the budget took over what was generated above that. For three 5-year plans we proclaimed and planned the accelerated development of Group B industries. However, not once was this actually ensured; the funds were siphoned away to heavy industry, which was increasingly beginning to operate for its own benefit. Meanwhile, one ruble invested in light industry yields about 4 rubles, and in heavy industry 84 kopecks.

All of us strove to create something gigantic—a powerful GES [hydropower station], a huge plant... Who was going to notice a modest garments factory; what award could one get for it? This is how unrealistically plans were put together, "powering" prestigious facilities into them. Toward the end of the year the plans were quietly "revised." The plans were "fulfilled," and the situation with the goods deteriorated....

So, returning to the budget, I am convinced it should be formed on the basis of different principles. At present, financing is "customized" for the drafts, the money goes to where the people and resources are marshaled. It should be the other way around. People and material resources should move to where the money is available. Money is the main point. If you have money you go and do business. If you do not you get a loan, but if you are not capable of running the business skillfully—that's it.

This is a question of principle. Not only the procedures for financing but a change in the concept are at issue here. At present, our economic system is sort of specially programmed for stagnation. If you increase the output of goods and improve their quality you are doing fine, but if you do not increase or improve and stay at the old level, you are going to be all right too. You can live like that for years and for 5-year plans. After all, this is what stagnation is about. In the West every businessman knows that if you do not advance it means that you fall behind and retrogress toward your inescapable demise. Thus far we have not had competition and the economy has not made the mandatory demand to develop! We need a system that would inexorably prompt that.

As I see it, both taxes and procedures for the formation of the remuneration fund could play a role in this. If you do not advance, do not add, then you lose. These funds would be more feasibly marshaled to where they would yield greater results. This is in the interest of society.

[Golovachev] This is an interesting idea. However, as present-day practice has already shown, many enterprises strive "to advance" in a manner far from the best by jacking up prices and thus increasing profits. Of course, this is advantageous for the budget....

[Pavlov] This is a grave error. It is altogether disadvantageous for the budget. It would seem that there is no reason why. After all, the budget collects its share—indeed, approximately 45 percent of the profits generated by enterprises. However, it is exactly the budget that finances expenditures that increase in conjunction with the growth of prices. For example, medical facilities will need more funds for meals, bed linens, drugs... This is also the case with military personnel, state offices, and so forth. Everything a person spends for, the budget also spends for. So, it comes out that a 1-percent increase in prices boosts budgetary expenditures by 1 percent, whereas revenues increase only by 0.45 percent. This is not advantageous!

In turn, it is advantageous for enterprises to inflate prices. This is where the egoistic interests of a particular enterprise and those of society as a whole clash. Previously, administrative "constraints" were in operation in this sphere (and in this instance they played a positive role, which was not the case with the entire administrative system). Having abandoned these constraints, we did not manage to introduce economic arrangements. We need them badly.

This is exactly why one of my proposals calls for a system of taxation taking into account the price level. If, say, an enterprise increases average prices for its products by 1 percent, the remuneration fund should automatically decrease by 0.5 percent. On the contrary, if products become cheaper, the fund should increase at the same rate. (In producing new products, the level of profitability will be taken into account).

This economic arrangement will encourage reductions in self-cost, prices, and the level of inflation, saturation of the market (in order to increase profits and earnings, production of merchandise will have to be increased). Such procedures could be introduced (following a discussion by the Supreme Soviet) as early as the fourth quarter of this year.

[Golovachev] At present, the issue of the calamitous situation of tens of millions of people who have low incomes and live either at the poverty level or below this level is acute in our country. Do you believe that there is an opportunity to help them, the difficult financial situation notwithstanding?

[Pavlov] I am profoundly convinced that this needs to be done. The humanity of a society and the degree of its development are judged by how it treats its children and old people. Unfortunately, we do not care for them as we should. The situation must be improved. This involves 56 million retirees and about 92 million children.

However, I will be frank to the end. We have no reserve resources. As is known, 1.5 billion was successfully found. However, on the whole, the task assigned will apparently have to be accomplished to some degree through redistribution—that is, by infringing (though to a small degree) on the interests of the highly paid strata of the populace. They might object to me, saying this smacks of wage leveling. However, the object is not wage leveling (differences in incomes will remain, and quite substantial at that), but showing charity, and coming to the aid of our fellow citizens in this hour of hardship for them and the entire country. Certainly, all the resources we will have will be marshaled to these pursuits. However, if we count only on increases in the state budget, we will have to wait until the end of this century. Will the old people live long enough? Of course, it could be that I am not right. Let the people decide.

[Golovachev] What, specifically, do you propose?

[Pavlov] A progressive tax that should increase for earnings of R500 and up, or better yet, from R400 and up—that is to say, up to this quota the regular tax is imposed, and for the segment above this quota a higher tax is imposed. In the process, a person with a R700 salary will lose R4 a month, and with a R900 salary, R18. Will this inflict great losses on the family budgets?

Of course, these funds alone will not suffice. The state will provide the bulk of the money.

We should also make sure that the extra payments received by retirees have real coverage. After all, there are no goods in the stores; a person would go to the market and there they would respond immediately—drive up the prices. Thus, a deed of kindness will turn into an evil one....

[Golovachev] Will data on the standard of living, inflation, and the consumer basket be published?

[Pavlov] Yes, the Goskomstat [State Committee for Statistics] is making calculations (existing methods are imperfect) and will publish the data.

[Golovachev] Issues of foreign trade activities attract special attention of the readers of TRUD. What is the situation in this sphere?

[Pavlov] Very tense. In addition to what was said at the Congress of People's Deputies, I may say that within 3 years (1985 through 1988) the foreign trade turnover declined to R132 billion. The statistics of the balance of payments in convertible currencies have deteriorated abruptly. The situation in trade with socialist countries has also changed. At present there are deficits in our balance of trade with Yugoslavia, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Romania. All of this is the result not only of the decline in prices for oil and other raw materials, but also of serious shortcomings in the operation of many industries. During the 3 years, foreign companies filed over a million complaints about the low quality of our goods. Is this how we conquer foreign markets? At present the price system is such that selling raw materials is more profitable than selling the products made with them. Is this skillful economic management? We need radical changes in this matter as well...

[Golovachev] At the Congress of People's Deputies, the issue was raised of whether it would not be better to purchase additional grain for dollars from our rural toilers rather than abroad.

[Pavlov] I agree that these are serious and far-reaching proposals, but they are not indisputable or unambiguous. This is why I believe it would be sound to first test them and analyze their results and consequences, including those for other producers and industries. I believe that we will arrange ways to implement the proposals made at the congress. To be sure, time is very short.

[Golovachev] Specifically with whom?

[Pavlov] Directly with every farm. With the foreign currency generated, the rural residents will be able, for example, to purchase machinery abroad, thus providing competition for our machinebuilding... To a considerable degree, the problem of overcoming the economic crisis is now being solved here in rural areas.

[Golovachev] Are you certain that the financial curative measures will be successful?

[Pavlov] Yes. Very complex but interesting work is in store for us. Previously financiers resembled bookkeepers a lot: Who to give the funds to and who not to. This caused torpor... Now, a new approach is required in this matter, a creative and nonstandard one. Perestroyka in the economy should begin and proceed at an accelerated pace in the financial sphere.

Comparison of Defense Industry Conversion Plans

LD1408105889

Moscow TASS International Service in Russian at 0445 GMT on 14 August transmits a report on an interview with Igor Belousov, chairman of the Council of Ministers' State Commission for Defense Industry Affairs, on defense industry conversion to civilian production. The TASS Russian version has been compared with the TASS English version published in the 14 August Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page 115, revealing the following variations:

column one, paragraph three, from last sentence, TASS Russian reads: ...of this year. [new paragraph]

"Within the scope of implementing measures to reduce USSR Armed Forces and defense expenditures, the wide-scale involvement of the production and scientific and technical potential of the defense industry in the resolution of priority tasks in developing the country's economy will be affected," Igor Belousov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Council of Ministers' State Commission for Defense Industry Affairs, said in an interview with a TASS correspondent. [new paragraph]

In 1991 the... (supplying additional paragraph)

paragraph four, only sentence, TASS Russian reads: ...the 1988 level, Belousov told TASS. [new paragraph]

He... (deleting title)

paragraph five, first sentence, TASS Russian reads: ...the 1988 level. The rate of growth in the volume of civilian output in 1989 and 1990 will thereby be considerably higher than the plan tasks previously laid down. This year the output of civilian... (supplying additional passage)

column two, paragraph one, last sentence, TASS Russian reads: ...of consumer goods. Belousov stressed that a substantial proportion of many types of consumer goods is already being produced at military enterprises. [new paragraph]

Three plants which... (supplying additional sentence)

paragraph three, last sentence, TASS Russian reads: ...planes and ships. Next year the plan is to substantially reduce the production of military output at a considerable number of enterprises in the defense industry, generally without stopping production. [new paragraph]

At the same... (supplying additional sentence)

penultimate paragraph, from last sentence, TASS Russian reads: ...of production, and retraining of personnel. [new paragraph]

"In order to... (supplying punctuation)

Last paragraph, only sentence, TASS Russian reads: ...other social problems. For this reason, together with conversion plans, we are also planning to submit for discussion by the Supreme Soviet a number of legislative acts for the regulation of social and labor issues." (supplying additional sentence, adding punctuation)

More Efficient Use of Oil Profits Urged

18200440b Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 10 Aug 89 p 2

[Article by Igor Lavrovskiy: "The Hard Ruble Out of the Petrodollar"]

[Text] Tens of billions of petrodollars have rushed through our ledgers and flown away, back across the border. There is nothing to be done about it; even (Hodzha Nasreddin) knew in his time that money clings to other money. There is no room for world money in the mazes of the economy of shortages.

The universal deficit causes a hunger for dollars. Everyone wants them. Now that the dollar has been obtained, what does its happy owner do? He is in a hurry to get rid of it soon, to exchange it for merchandise! We must say that this is not the best move. After all, along with the verb "to spend," humanity has invented other verbs that sound well in combination with the word "money"—for example, "to invest" or "to circulate." The more cycles our earned dollar goes through in our country and abroad, the more new dollars, pounds, and rubles stick to it.

As I see it, it would be most reasonable under the current circumstances to use hard-currency income for ensuring the convertibility of the ruble and attracting foreign capital rather than for purchasing goods, especially producer goods. The lack of opportunity to transfer the profits to their home countries is the main problem for foreign investors. This holds many of them back.

Our official attitude toward foreign investment has always been based on the principle of "sour grapes." However, it is not bad at all when someone invests his money in our economy. Many are mesmerized by the thought of profits being transferred abroad, and they view this as "undermining the foundations." However, go and try to find in our country a person ready to produce something "for a song." There are no such unique individuals in the West either. This is why sharing profits between partners is absolutely normal and mutually beneficial—this is what makes the world turn, all the more so because, given today's conditions, not more than one-quarter of overall profits may drift abroad. The rest will remain within the country in one form or another—as wages, taxes, or the cost of purchases.

For people used to living in the environment of our static economy, it is not easy to realize that this profit is not redistributed but created anew. This is not a withdrawal from what is available, but the creation of something new, something that could not develop otherwise. Foreign capital investments will not undermine the foundations of the economy of our country. They will only undermine... the foundations of the quota and ration-card system.

All outlays of the producer, including the cost of materials, labor, and energy, which we also have, are included in the price of goods purchased in the foreign market. At the same time, the interest of partners in us as buyers is proportionate to profits rather than outlays. The share of profit in prices amounts to between 5 and 10 percent by Western standards. If we managed to turn all 100 percent of our hard-currency resources into the profits of partners, their interest in us would increase by a factor of 10. In order to receive such profits, they would have to invest about $200 billion in our economy, and bring the volume of annual product sales to approximately the same amount. This would ensure for us both the acceleration and the internationalization of production.

The output of international enterprises must be directed to the shortage-plagued domestic market rather than to the overly saturated foreign market. In this event, the petrodollar will work for the Soviet consumer.

However, where are we to get a miraculous remedy that turns outlays into profits? The currency market is such a remedy. The mechanism will be set in motion if the state begins to sell dollars for rubles inside the country rather than spend the dollars themselves. The market is automatic. Given the low activity of foreign investors, the dollar will become cheaper, it will be easier to obtain, and this will attract new investors. Given a pick-up in economic activity, the price of the dollar in rubles will increase, which will increase the "armor-piercing" power of our goods in the world market. The amount of dollars will increase.

The hard-currency market should be open to all Soviet citizens and enterprises without any discrimination in order not to become the plaything of rich ministries. Everything must be simple. You have saved rubles and you buy dollars. The initial high price should not take us aback. A high price still provides a real opportunity. However, the absence for sale means the absence of an opportunity.

As soon as considerable hard-currency funds appear in the hands of the populace, the world market will open up for the Soviet man. For domestic producers, only one alternative will remain—to attain the world standard. It will become advantageous to make rubles; after all, they will "yield goods" one way or the other, and the world economy will vote in favor of perestroyka.

Many countries have already realized that it is better to develop the economy on the basis of international cooperation in some specially selected areas rather than along the entire front, because it is expensive and unrealistic. The concept of special economic zones follows from this. Some regions of the Soviet Union have already begun competing for the right to host in their territory international production and trade. Indeed, this is an advantageous endeavor. However, creating such zones in the regions that have nothing to pay with is hardly expedient. Self-financing and self-capitalization in hard currency are, perhaps, the key condition for resolving this issue. If it is so, hardly a more suitable place for a special economic zone can be found than Western Siberia with its oil and gas potential, a sea of unsolved social problems, and a multitude of young hands and heads.

Participation in proceeds from the export of energy resources by this territory, which gets mainly rusting pipes buried in the ground by virtue of the oil boom, is a prerequisite for this. From a supplicant the region should turn into a full-fledged master of its natural wealth. They might object that supposedly the presence of oil and gas in the bowels of the earth is a random natural occurrence. What should the money be paid for in this instance? This is so, but a random gift is still a gift. It needs to be preserved. Let us finally think in terms of specifics! There is a region with unique economic features, so let us create special conditions for it by humanizing the habitat of the toilers.

The oil industry itself should also become a special economic zone. By now everything has been done to keep the oilmen away from hard currency. One set of people produces, another trades, the third set counts the money, and the fourth draws benefits. This is in profound contradiction to the world practice that has emerged.

Powerful integrated companies, which do geological surveying theselves, produce themselves, and sell themselves, operate in the world market of energy resources. These companies wield considerable economic power. In essence, they rule the oil market in which we passively follow their policy despite the tremendous size of our exports. They control the market and the market controls us. This does not go unnoticed. The magazine PETROLEUM ECONOMIST (London) even wrote that the USSR is the mightiest power in the oil world without realizing this. We would gain even more from oil if we brought the industry up to the world standard and made it fully competitive in the entire array of products from raw materials to the products of deep refining.

If the problems of oilmen are solved, other industries will not suffer a loss either. Machine-building, particularly in the defense industry, will win. Heavy and medium machine-building are its foundation. This is no secret. However, the producers of technically sophisticated heavy equipment are now being urged to turn out simple-technology products. Of course, you can use treasury bills for fuel, but in this manner we may quickly lose our last shirt.

Now is the right time for the defense industry to address the needs of the energy complex. If the oilmen finally receive the hard currency they have lawfully made, this will generate a tremendous demand on their part for heavy industrial equipment of a world standard. Let them buy such equipment for hard currency inside the country; say, from the same defense industry. Why should we not eliminate the commercial discrimination of our own people? We give our currency to someone else instead of letting it circulate inside the country, while stabilizing the ruble and stimulating the economy.

Therefore, what is proposed? To combine the energy sector and the defense sector, to set up on the basis of fuel exports an internal competitive hard-currency market for the machine-building industries, open for our own and foreign companies.

Our machine-builders will conquer a niche for themselves working for the colossal domestic market (more than one-half of capacities in the branches of the energy complex are in need of replacement) in the environment of open competition with foreign companies—regulated, however, by our state. Competitiveness will increase, and so will hard-currency proceeds.

Two tricky questions may be asked. Will they not sell every last thing? Will the oilmen become monopolists unto themselves?

Experience shows that people are only wasteful with regard to someone else's assets. At home everyone is thrifty. If oil is going to be in the hands of those who extract it, will they undercut their very existence? It is unlikely. Quite the opposite, it is exactly the system of quotas and commands that forces excessive increases in production creating the ever-present deficit.

Monopoly practices must be nipped in the bud. There are 40 associations within the system of the Minnefteprom [Ministry of the Petroleum Industry]. Quite a few of them do not produce for the all-union market, to say nothing of the world. Perhaps some of them can be made independent enterprises operating in contact with regional soviets. The Tyumen Production Association, which has a powerful base, may turn into an integrated exporting company. A similar company could emerge on the basis of the Volga Complex. This is exactly how I see the new, competitive structure of the industry.

It would stand to reason to respond to two more questions. First of all, if the hard currency ends up in the hands of the industry, how will this be different from the now criticized West Siberian petrochemical currency projects? It will be different in that the petrochemical monopoly will create a new burden for the extractive branch and the region without solving their problems. Integration of the industries should develop from below, from the land, from the main export product, but not from the top down without taking into account the issues of oil extraction and the oil-producing region.

Second, prices for raw materials are low at present, but it is proposed to invest in raw material industries. Where is the logic of it? It is the ironclad logic of the economy to do everything exactly on time. As early as 1981 I wrote an article in which it was argued that a decline in oil prices will inevitably follow their increase. At the time no one wanted to see the inevitability of it; the article was published as late as 1988. We are still pretending that the drop in oil prices was something akin to a natural disaster. However, Western oil companies had prepared for this "surprise" and have not lost in terms of either profits or economic clout. Why?

They had been investing in technology development, oil refining, chemistry, and even agriculture. They had been prepared. At present I am forecasting a new increase in oil prices in 5 to 7 years. When are we going to prepare for it? When will it turn into a decline? Why can the Western companies plan, while our planners cannot? Just because over there decisions are made by professionals who are free of pressure from "on high" and have a personal stake in succeeding.

The course of my reasoning ultimately boils down to a single key thesis. Instead of a single owner of hard-currency profits from the sale of energy resources—the state apparatus, which distributes them as it sees fit—I presuppose the existence of at least three owners. They are the state, the region, and the industry distributing hard currency on a commercial basis. The already mentioned indispensable world experience is one of the most powerful arguments in favor of this idea. By now tremendous experience has been accumulated in mutual relations between the oil producers of various countries with the region and the state. There is no need to reinvent the wheel. For example, here is how the profits of oil companies operating in the Near and Middle East are distributed. Out of proceeds for every ton sold, the state obtains 12.5 percent as a tax on the utilization of mineral wealth, which does not depend on profits; profit tax is 55 percent of the residual (less self-cost). Thus the oil company gets between 30 and 40 percent of the sale price.

Taxation is not the only way to combine various interests. Joint property ownership is a no less efficient way. State monopoly property may be turned into mixed joint-stock property. The state (represented by the ministry), the region (represented by the local soviet), the enterprise itself, and its employees would become the shareholders. The population of the country could become the fifth and by no means unneeded shareholder.

Perhaps many people would agree to receive a good dividend on trading in oil rather than the slim 2 percent on their savings. It would be easier for the oilmen to attain a higher level of labor productivity if they had their own coffers.

The famous English economist J.M. Keynes wrote that the power of pecuniary interests is considerably exaggerated compared to the gradual infiltration of new economic ideas. However, in our age of perestroyka one would want the new ideas to combine with the interests faster than in the slow old time.

Cherepovets Labor Group Withdraws From Ministry

PM1408121989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Aug 89 Morning Edition p 2

[Correspondent Viktor Filippov report under the rubric "Direct Communication": "They Are Leaving the Ministry"]

[Text] Cherepovets, Vologda Oblast—A conference of the labor collective of the "Ammofos" Production Association has taken the decision to pull out of the system of the Ministry of Mineral Fertilizer Production. The workers have become tired of empty talk of economic independence. On the one hand, the ministry no longer demands that every step be coordinated with it, but on the other it has sent down as many as 200 different reports to be completed instead. The appetite of this Moscow department has also grown: Annual deductions from the enterprise's profits have reached R40 million.

The "Ammofos" collective has decided to join the intersectoral state association "Tekhnokhim," under whose aegis 16 enterprises from neighboring Leningrad Oblast are already gathered. All are equal in this association and the highest body of management is the assembly of representatives of labor collectives. Day to day issues are decided by the Council of Directors....

I will report on the further development of events.

7-Month Railway Ministry Statistics Outlined

18290250a Moscow GUDOK in Russian 4 Aug 89 p 1

[Article based on the materials of the Ministry of Railways Statistics Administration: "7-Month Transportation Performance"]

[Text] This year the workers of steel main lines celebrate their traditional holiday, the Day of the Railroad Worker, under complicated circumstances. The plan of 7 months for the overall dispatching of freight was just fulfilled. To be sure, the plan for state order freight was exceeded by 8.3 million tons. Over 8 million tons of grain and milled products, 3 million tons of ferrous metals, more than 1.5 million tons of coke, an equal amount of cement and mixed feed, about 1 million tons of oil and refinery products, 700,000 tons of non-ferrous ore and sulphurous raw materials, and more than 500,000 tons of fireproof materials were delivered above the plan.

At the same time, due to the situation that emerged in a number of regions of the country, more than 4 million tons of hard coal, 3.8 million tons of chemical and mineral fertilizer, 1.8 million tons of iron and manganese ore, 1.2 million tons of flux, and 600,000 tons of lumber freight were not transported compared to the 7-month plan.

Fifteen railroads fulfilled the 7-month plan of transportation. The best results were achieved by the collectives of the Belorussian Railroad where 3.4 million tons were transported above the plan; the Baltic Railroad, over 2 million tons; the October and Odessa Railroads, over 1 million tons (each); and the Baykal-Amur Railroad, 831,000 tons.

Among the railroads that failed to fulfill the plan, the greatest lag was allowed to occur on the Kemerovo Railroad—about 6 million tons compared to the plan; the Tselina Railroad—3.4 million tons; and the Donetsk Railroad—1.4 million tons. On these railroads, as well as the Northern, Lvov, Azerbaijan, and North Caucasus railroads, the lag was allowed to occur mainly in July and the second quarter due to the extremely difficult conditions for operations, failure to provide products for shipping, failure to comply with the norms of loading the cars, the reduced rate of loading on days off, as well as the extremely slow unloading of cars by freight recipients. Thus, with local freight growing by almost 4,000 cars in July, the unloading decreased by 4,900 cars. At the North Caucasus, Azerbaijan, Transcaucasian, Southeastern, Volga, Central Asian, and Kemerovo railroads a tremendous surplus of the transit car pool accumulated (112 to 134 percent of the norm).

Due to a considerable deterioration of transportation work in July, the increment of labor productivity of employees working in transportation declined. The self-cost of transportation was 1.8 percent greater than planned.

Scientific

'Resurs-F' Satellite Launched 15 Aug

LD1608065389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0635 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow, 16 Aug (TASS)—On Tuesday a "Soyuz" carrier rocket launched the latest "Resurs-F" artificial earth satellite in the USSR. The satellite was developed by the Foton design bureau of the USSR Glavkosmos.

The satellite carries apparatus for the conduct of multizonal and spectrozonal photography on various scales with the aim of continuing research into the Earth's natural resources in the interests of various branches of the USSR national economy and international cooperation.

The satellite has been placed in an orbit with the following parameters: initial period of revolution, 89 minutes; apogee, 258 km; perigee, 192 km; orbital inclination, 82.3 degrees.

The apparatus aboard the satellite is working normally.

Cosmonaut Mission to 'Mir' To Begin 6 Sep

LD1508190789 Moscow TASS in English 1835 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Star City, Near Moscow, August 15 TASS—By TASS correspondent Rena Kuznetsova:

The launch of cosmonauts to the Soviet "Mir" orbital station is scheduled for September 6, Alexey Leonov, deputy head of the cosmonauts' training centre, told journalists here today. He presented the crew who are to dock with and work at the "Mir" orbital station. These are Aleksandr Viktorenko and Aleksandr Serebrov. The second crew of Anatoliy Solovyev and Aleksandr Balandin were also present.

The last expedition of three cosmonauts completed work at the space complex on April 27, 1989. Since then the station has been in an automatic flight. And prior to them, Soviet cosmonauts Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov logged a year onboard the space station—the longest period anyone has remained in orbit.

Among the spacemen presented at the meeting, Aleksandr Balandin is the only newcomer. He was born in Fryazino, near Moscow, in 1953, graduated from the Bauman higher technical school in Moscow and was enlisted in the group of cosmonauts in 1978. He underwent training under the "Buran" reusable spacecraft flight program.

Serebrov said that two modules are planned to be ferried to the station. The first, a service module, should be launched in October and the second, technological, will be docked with the complex in January-February 1990.

The service module will deliver a space bicycle, a device with whose aid cosmonauts will be able to move around the station by getting away from it at a distance of 50 meters. An updated man-manoeuvering unit, Orlan, was developed for work on the bicycle. The technological module has a device which will enable it to accommodate the "Buran" in future.

Answering the question on the prospects for using the "Buran," Leonov said that a pilotless launch of this reusable spaceship and its docking with "Mir" is planned for 1991. Two variants of its return to the earth are under consideration: With the crew or independently. Leonov said that the manned flight of the shuttle is planned in 1992.

Weekly Cites High Radiation Levels in Chukotka

LD1608090589 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0805 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow, 16 Aug (TASS)—The total dose of radiation in the population of Chukotka is double the average for the USSR, and is roughly equal to the average dose of radiation received by people living in the territories that suffered as a result of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station. These data on the level of radioactive pollution of the environment in the autonomous okrug in the northeast of the Soviet Union as a result of the nuclear tests in the country's far north in the 1950's and 1960's are cited by Yevdokiya Gayer, USSR people's deputy, and Valdimir Lupandin, doctor of medicine, in the weekly MOSCOW NEWS.

For Chukchi deer breeders the real dose of radiation is much higher, for their organism is the final link in the chain of accumulation of radionuclides: from the lichen, to the reindeer, to man, the weekly notes. According to the data of health experts and radiologists from Leningrad, the specific activity of Lead-210 in the bone tissue of deer breeders is 10-20 times higher than in people who do not eat venison, and the total content of Cesium-137 in the organism is 100 times more. As a result, practically 100 percent of the indigenous population are suffering from tuberculosis, and 90 percent are suffering from chronic, nonspecific diseases of the lungs.

The sharp growth in oncological diseases is causing experts particular concern. Their level in Chukotka is 2-3 times higher than the average for the USSR. The death rate from cancer of the esophagus is the highest in the world. The rate for liver cancer is 10 times higher than the average. Over the last 20 years the incidence of lung cancer has become more frequent and that of leukemia and cancer of the stomach has doubled. New forms of malignant growths are appearing—tumors of the connective and bone tissues and of the thyroid gland.

As noted by Gayer and Lupandin, all this is leading to a considerable drop in length of life and to a growth in child mortality among the indigenous population in Chukotka.

Military

Air Force Plans for Tushino Air Show Outlined

Tu-160 Bomber To Fly at Air Show

PM1408125389

[Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 8 August publishes in its Morning Edition on page 6 under the headline "Tushino, 20 August. Our Air Show" a 550-word report by V. Belikov incorporating an interview with S. Maslov, deputy chairman of the Voluntary

Society for the Promotion of the Army, Aviation, and Navy Central Committee, who notes that "many aircraft will be demonstrated in flight 20 August over Tushino airfield—the second place where a kind of Moscow air show has been held. From 1100 hours on that day the state-of-the-art Tu-160 supersonic strategic bomber, the long-range wide-bodied Il-96-300 airliner, the medium Tu-204 long-haul passenger aircraft, the Su-25 attack aircraft, and the A-40 search-and-rescue seaplane will fly over 100,000 spectators for 2 hours or so. Four Mig-29 tactical fighters will zoom past in 'diamond' formation, while the Su-27 antiaircraft defense interceptor will perform aerobatics."

The article concludes by saying the following: "Central Television's first channel is organizing a live broadcast from the air show, which was last held July 1967."

Air Force Deputy Chief Comments

LD1608101889 Moscow TASS in English 0957 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow August 16 TASS—"Ensuring reliable protection of Soviet air borders is the main goal of the Air Force," Lieutenant General Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, first deputy commander-in-chief of the Soviet Air Force, told a news conference here today, devoted to USSR Air Force Day on August 20.

Representatives of the USSR Ministry of the Aviation Industry, the USSR Ministry of Civil Aviation, the Central Committee of the Voluntary Society for Assisting the Army, Air Force and Navy said the holiday was a celebration of the achievements of Soviet aircraft making and the country's pilots.

The speakers noted that a major air show will be held at the Central Chkalov Aeroclub in Tushino on August 20. The program will feature 44 events including demonstration flights by Mi-2 Helicopters, flypasts of Yak-52 and Mig-25 planes, aerobatics by individual or several Su-26M, parachute jumps, demonstrations of dogfights, and a mass display by gliders.

The Khodynka field, known as the central Frunze airfield, will host a large aviation show between August 19-27, featuring modern military and civilian aircraft and helicopters. A total of 37 types of technology will provide an insight into the history of aviation. For example, World War II Aircraft Yak-3 will be on show along with the VTOL [vertical take-off and landing] Yak-38 plane. Homebuilt planes will also be on display.

Navy Deputy Commander Kapitanets Interviewed

PM1608090189 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Aug 89 First Edition pp 1-2

[Interview with Admiral of the Fleet I. Kapitanets, first deputy commander-in-chief of the USSR Navy, by Captain 2d Class S. Turchenko: "How Should the Navy Develop?"; date, place of interview not given]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Turchenko] Our readers are interested almost more than anything else in questions connected with the Navy's development today. What is the concept for its development? What are the priorities and prospects in shipbuilding?

[Kapitanets] With regard to the Navy's forces and facilities, we are examining the possibility of a certain quantitative reduction while at the same time improving the qualitative characteristics of ships and their armaments and technical facilities. The course toward the qualitative development of equipment consists not only in improving its physical characteristics, but above all in radically increasing its reliability and combat potential. Our scientists, designers, engineers, workers, and employees of the shipbuilding and defense industry are resolving this task together with military specialists. Demands are being increased substantially on the standard of combat skill and the ability to skillfully service and operate arms and technical facilities and use them effectively in any conditions.

[Turchenko] Could you cite the correlation between the Warsaw Pact and NATO naval forces?

[Kapitanets] In terms of aircraft-carrying ships, NATO surpasses us by a factor of 7 while it has 3.5 times more amphibious warfare ships and twice as many personnel. If you take submarines, we have approximate parity.

[Turchenko] Understandably, even today there are many difficulties in developing the Navy. Obviously they can be viewed in two aspects: the limitation of our technical potential and the lack of organization in shipbuilding. Some letters the editorial office receives from state reception and military mission specialists raise questions of the monopolism of the departments working for the Navy and of how they often dictate its development to the Navy, and not the other way around, depending on their own potential and needs. Alongside this there is another range of questions. It is believed that our Navy is very expensive (if possible, please say what proportion of the military budget goes to it), yet the Navy's funds are probably also "eaten up" to a considerable degree by other departments. Is that the case?

[Kapitanets] The Navy's share in the USSR Defense Ministry's overall budget is not great. The funds earmarked for the Navy for building ships are spent on their immediate purpose. I know of no cases of these funds being squandered in recent years.

[Turchenko] And, nonetheless, cases are known of the poor quality of delivery of ships and weapons to the Navy, of representatives of industry taking a long time to complete them (at the Navy's expense, of course). There have also been quite a few accidents in the Navy recently.

[Kapitanets] Yes, there are quite a few unresolved problems. Accidents to nuclear submarines are particularly worrying. This cannot be considered reassuring, but I stress that it is not only in our country that accidents happen. In the past 25 years we have lost three nuclear submarines and the U.S. Navy has lost two. We comprehensively study the reasons for tragic incidents and draw lessons. There are many shortcomings in the servicing of equipment. But the prime sources of accidents must, nonetheless, be sought in the design and quality of submarine building. In the past 20 years designers have not suggested a single fundamentally new solution to ensure ships' survivability. Much damage has been caused by the generally characteristic decline in technological and production discipline in the shipbuilding industry. Our military representatives at enterprises, in accepting equipment, reveal numerous omissions and, unfortunately, are sometimes unable to oppose this flood of spoilages.

But, while leveling complaints against designers and industry, the Navy's command does not refuse responsibility for blunders and errors. The relevant measures have been taken: Demands have been increased on the quality of preventive repairs, military representatives have started to work in a more principled and even carping manner, and the training of personnel is proceeding according to more complex plans closer to extreme situations.

[Turchenko] How has the reduction of the USSR Armed Forces affected the Navy? Is any structural or other reorganization of the Navy being undertaken in this connection? Will the Navy rid itself of the burden of obsolete ships and vessels?

[Kapitanets] On the basis of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium 21 March 1989 decree "On Reducing the USSR Armed Forces and Defense Expenditures in 1989-1990," individual ship formations, air regiments, shore-based missile and artillery units, naval infantry, combat equipment, and rear services are subject to reduction. During the reduction the fleets are being relieved primarily of the burden of obsolete types of ships and vessels, aircraft, shore-based artillery systems, armaments, and combat equipment.

In connection with the reduction in the numerical strength of the personnel, it is planned to disband or reorganize individual ship formations and shore-based units, which ultimately will not give rise to any substantial structural changes in the Navy fleets or categories of troops.

[Turchenko] The congress of people's deputies said that the funds released by reducing the Armed Forces should be used to improve the people's welfare. The Navy personnel are part of the people. It is well known how feeble the social infrastructure is, especially for remote naval garrisons. Are there plans to put a proportion of the funds (and what proportion?) toward resolving these problems? How soon can we expect improvements in this matter?

[Kapitanets] The volume of appropriations released by reducing the Armed Forces and planned specifically for development of the social sphere for the Navy has not yet been defined by the relevant authorities.

In forming the Navy's capital construction plan for the 12th 5-Year Plan, paramount attention was paid to the question of building housing and establishments of the social sphere. The volume of capital investments in the construction of housing and sociocultural and consumer establishments is 42 percent of the Navy quota (compared to 30 percent in the 11th 5-Year Plan). In subsequent 5-year plans this proportion will increase to 60 percent.

Despite this, the housing problem in the Navy is being resolved only slowly. In 1987-88 the number of families without apartments was reduced by only 4,080. As of 1 January 1989 there were 19,220 families without apartments on the Navy's lists. In addition, 19,362 families are in need of improvements to their housing conditions and 866 families are living in dilapidated or dangerous housing.

To accelerate the solution of the housing problem in the Navy as of 1990, the volumes of construction of apartment blocks for those with small families and of hostels at the main naval base garrisons will be doubled.

In connection with the reduction of the Armed Forces, under the 1989 plan it is intended to construct 630 apartments at the fleets and in the center for those discharged from the Navy. In addition, by a decision of the USSR defense minister, apartments should be allocated every year for the officers discharged into the reserve or into retirement in the military districts (in the European part of the USSR).

In the 13th 5-Year Plan it will be essential to earmark 52 percent of the capital investments from the Navy's quota, and in the 14th 5-Year Plan 58 percent for the construction of housing and sociocultural and consumer establishments.

But I must stress with alarm that all this will be at the expense of reducing the construction of naval bases, the training base, testing grounds, and weapons stores, which is fraught with undesirable consequences for the future. So the Navy is in acute need of aid from the local soviets in resolving problems of sociocultural and consumer services.

[Turchenko] Thank you for the talk.

Thefts of Military Weapons in Dushanbe Noted

*PM1508135189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
13 Aug 89 Morning Edition p 6*

[Report by "our correspondent" A. Karpov: "Blast That Could Have Been Avoided"; first paragraph is IZVESTIYA introduction]

[Text] Two people killed and one seriously injured... This is a line from the Dushanbe City Internal Affairs Administration's summary of incidents, our correspondent A. Karpov reports from Dushanbe.

The thrust of the sorry incident is as follows: A group of drunkards, having drunk their liquor in a doorway, fell out over who should go for fresh supplies. There was not the drunken brawl customary in such cases. It was worse.

One of the drinkers drew from his pocket...a "pineapple" and pulled out the pin. There was an explosion...

The incident is now being investigated by the prosecutor's office. In particular, the investigation must find an answer to the question of how a combat grenade found its way into the hands of someone who was by no means a military man. But I believe another question is no less important: Could the blast that resounded virtually in the middle of a large residential microrayon that August night have been avoided?

Here are a few of the numerous facts recorded in the Tajik capital in the past 18 months: A taxi driver discovered on the rear seat of his vehicle a grenade that had been "forgotten" by one of his passengers. Workers of the No. 50 mechanized column found a mine for an 82 mm mortar on the territory of their enterprise; horsemen almost ran into two antitank mines at the city race course; and someone discarded a sack (!) containing ammunition—grenades, mines, and rounds for a submachinegun and heavy machinegun—at the Dushanbe cemetery...

Not one of these facts has been completely explained. The law enforcement organs have been able to take measures only when young boys stole several combat weapons from a military unit and in their innocence began to boast of their "acquisitions" to friends on the street and when—by chance (!)—an attempt by a serviceman to sell a submachinegun directly outside his unit was successfully intercepted...

What is happening in the city? Who should bear responsibility for the fact that a mass of firearms is being concealed in it? I await the end of the investigation of the case first described, and also the results of an inspection of weapons stores in the military units close to the city. The inspection is being carried out at the request of the prosecutor's office.

Troop Exercise Begins in Belorussia

LD1508083689 Moscow TASS in English 0833 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Minsk, Belorussia, August 15 TASS—Troops of the Belorussian Military District began an exercise today to practice troop control and to improve cooperation and field training standards.

The exercise, held near the settlements of Dubrovo, Shatsk, Berezino and Ulla, involves 17,400 Army and Air Force troops.

In accordance with the Stockholm conference's document, the Soviet Government has invited representatives of all countries, participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, to attend the exercise.

Foreign military observers are expected to arrive at the site on August 17.

Yazov Order for Military Construction Worker's Day

PM1608113589 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Aug 89 First Edition p 1

["USSR Defense Minister's Order of the Day No 265," dated Moscow, 13 August 1989]

[Text] Comrade Army and Navy servicemen!
Comrade military construction workers and railroad construction unit servicemen!
Comrade veterans of military construction!

Today our country and its Armed Forces are celebrating Construction Worker's Day!

Military construction workers and railroad unit servicemen are greeting their professional holiday in the atmosphere of the comprehensive renewal of Soviet society's life and of the USSR Armed Forces, and practical implementation of the course of the 19th all-union party conference and the tasks set by the first Congress of USSR People's Deputies.

Positive processes are being established in military and labor collectives, an atmosphere of exactingness and professionalism is being created, and the activeness of Soviet Army and Navy personnel, workers, and employees in providing a high-quality solution to capital construction tasks is increasing.

Taking into account the new approaches to Soviet defense building, in strict accordance with the directives of our defense military doctrine, all people working on military construction sites need to introduce more extensively new progressive forms of labor organization and payment, fundamentally increase the quality of construction, and utilize material and technical resources rationally.

I congratulate you on your holiday—Construction Worker's Day!

I wish the personnel of military construction and railroad construction units and veterans of military construction good health, successful fulfillment of the plan targets, improved professional standards, and strengthened military and labor discipline.

[Signed] Army General D. Yazov, USSR defense minister.